

# Children's Newspaper

Every Wednesday—Fourpence

FOUNDED BY ARTHUR MEE

No. 2071, November 29, 1958

## RADIO AMATEURS CALLING

### Speaking to the world all round the clock

Radio enthusiasts from all over Britain will be in London this week to visit the four-day Radio Hobbies Exhibition which opens at the Royal Horticultural Hall on Wednesday. Organised by the Radio Society of Great Britain, the exhibition will show the latest transmitting and receiving equipment for the do-it-yourself enthusiast, and an amateur radio station in contact with "hams" all over the world.

The hobby of operating an amateur radio station is becoming more and more popular; in Britain alone there are some 8000 "hams" who hold licences. Here a special correspondent tells us something about them and the way they work.

FOR several weeks Post Office and BBC engineers had been trying to make a direct radio link between London and the American base at the South Pole so that Britain would be able to hear a recorded message from Dr. Vivian Fuchs when he arrived there during his dash across Antarctica. In the end it was a

If you have ever listened on the short wave band of your radio at home you may have heard some of these messages being transmitted. You have to tune carefully to hear the verbal messages, but there is no need to search very long for the dots and dashes of the Morse Code.

Even if you know Morse, however, you are not likely to understand the messages being transmitted, for they are sent out in a sort of radio shorthand—the Q Code as it is called.

You might, for instance, hear signals that read something like this:

**CQ CQ CQ DE G3ZZZ G3ZZZ K**

**G3ZZZ G3ZZZ DE GM2XXX GM2XXX K**

**GM2XXX DE G3ZZZ GM OM ES MNI TKS FER CALL VY PSED TO QSO UR SIGS RST 579X WID SLITE QRM QTH LONDON NAME HR IS JOHN NW PSE HW GM2XXX DE G3ZZZ**

This may be translated as:

This is an invitation to anyone to call station G3ZZZ.

This is station GM2XXX answering station G3ZZZ.

Station G3ZZZ to station GM2XXX Good morning old man and thanks for your call. Very pleased to communicate with you. Your signals are fairly strong and quite reasonable but with slight interference. I am in London, my name is John. Your turn now.

don, my name is John. Your turn now.

Though this may seem complicated, the Q code is not difficult to learn and memorise. It enables a comparatively slow sender of Morse to transmit almost as quickly as he would by direct speech; and it has the great advantage of being known the world over.

It was by using the Q code earlier this year that radio hams in many parts of the world were able to save the life of an Algerian child who was suffering from a form of meningitis. A drug unobtainable in Algeria was urgently needed.

#### HAMS TO THE RESCUE

A radio amateur in Oran heard of the problem and sent an appeal over the air. Picked up by a Portuguese operator, the message was sent out again, picked up in France, re-broadcast, and heard in Miami. Within a short while a message was being passed back along the same channels that supplies of the drugs were being flown across the Atlantic by the first available plane.

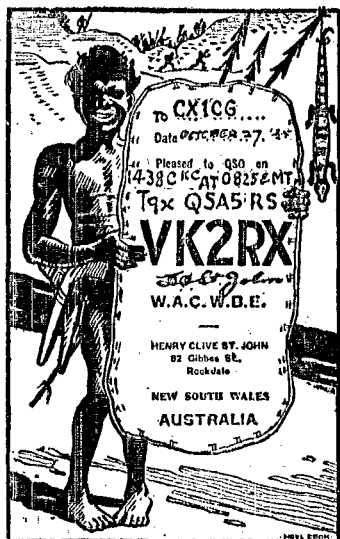
Meanwhile, the SOS had been heard elsewhere and from three sources the drug was hurried to the sick child.

The life of a small Dutch child was saved in similar fashion two years ago, when radio amateurs in Hertfordshire and Swansea came to the rescue.

Until quite recently Britain's 8000 licensed amateurs were not actually allowed to send messages over the air on behalf of a third person. In spite of this the Radio Amateur Emergency Network came into being in 1953, providing information to the police and Red Cross in times of emergency when normal means of communication had broken down. The service did valuable work during the East Coast floods of 1953.

There were no prosecutions and

Continued on page 6



QSL cards are sent to confirm two-way communications. This one comes from a station in Australia.

17-year-old American schoolboy who got in touch with the South Pole; and he not only spoke to the great explorer but connected him to a BBC official, so that the next day the whole of Britain was able to hear Dr. Fuchs speak.

That boy, Jules Madey, was one of the world's 250,000 radio amateurs—"hams" as they are called—who regularly contact other enthusiasts and transmit news and information.

In a single evening a radio amateur may perhaps have a chat with a teacher in California, a doctor in Belgium, a farmer in Mexico, and a student in Venezuela. Distance is no barrier; nor is language, for if the operators cannot speak each other's tongue they can communicate by means of an operating code, which, combined with Morse, provides a universal language.

Using only 150 watts—about one-third of the power used by an electric iron—the demonstration radio station at the Science Museum, London, frequently makes contact with amateurs in all parts of the world.

The station is primarily intended to encourage young people to take an interest in radio communication as a hobby and as a possible career. The station (GB2SM) is normally in operation from 11.30-12.00 and 4.0-4.30 (Mondays to Fridays) but is often 'on the air' at other times.



## RADIO GIRL

Seventeen-year-old Angela Firman, of Bridlington, Yorkshire, has become the first woman to hold the Postmaster-General's certificate first class for proficiency in Radio-Telegraphy.

Angela has always wanted a sea-going career, and two years

ago she went on a trip to the West Indies as a stewardess-in the Swedish ship in which her father was serving. She did not like the job and decided to become a Radio Officer. Now she is well on the way to achieving her ambition.

## Ship of Shakespeare's Tempest

The skeleton of an old ship, wedged among reefs, has been found by an amateur diver off the coast of Bermuda. The wreck, from which he has brought up cannon balls and two jugs, may turn out to be the armed merchantman Sea Venture, the ship that was lost while carrying colonists to Virginia nearly 350 years ago. This is also believed to be the ship that Shakespeare was thinking of when he began *The Tempest*.

Flagship of a fleet of eight, commanded by Sir George Somers, she sailed from Plymouth for Virginia in 1609, became separated from the others by a storm, and was wrecked on Bermuda. Sir George and his men struggled ashore and found the uninhabited island overrun by wild hogs and "full of strange noises," which they put down to spirits or devils.

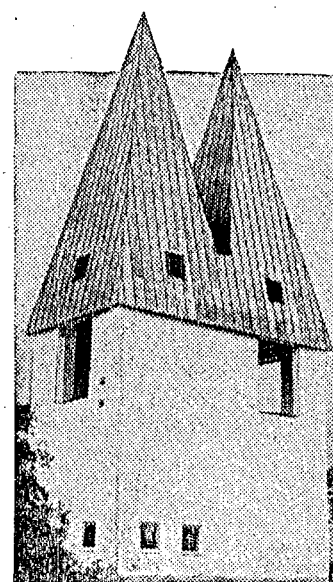
They stayed on the island for ten months, built two small boats and then sailed on to Virginia, where the colonists were on the verge of starvation. Gallantly Sir George returned to his haunted island to secure pigs and fish for the famished settlers. But he died there, it was said "from a surfeit of eating pig." His heart was buried where the town of St. George now stands, and his body was taken back to England and buried with military honours at Whitchurch Canonorum in Dorset, Sir George's native county.

One of the ship's company, Sylvestre Jourdain of Lyme Regis, afterwards wrote an account of the wreck and his experiences on

the island and this was published in 1610 at about the time when Shakespeare was setting to work on his last play, *The Tempest*, and the vivid first scene, when the ship strikes, may have been taken from an eye-witness account.

If the ancient, waterlogged timbers found by the diver are really those of the Sea Venture, then what Shakespeare called "The direful spectacle of the wreck" may be seen again in Virginia's 350th anniversary celebrations next year.

## New German Church



A new Protestant church has been built at Moosach, near Munich, with this striking tower.

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# RAISED ON THE ADJOURNMENT

By the CN Parliamentary Correspondent

WITH rare exceptions, life at Westminster keeps time to a settled rhythm. Our M.P.s sit and "adjourn" daily, five days a week throughout each session or Parliamentary year.

There can be as many as five sessions in the life of each Parliament. Each session is ended by Prorogation, which means a deferment or temporary halt. It may be compared with the end of our school year when we know we shall be carrying on again with fresh tasks in the months to come.

Each Parliament is brought to an end by the Dissolution, which is followed by a General Election for a new Parliament. Whether there are five or fewer sessions depends on when a Government decides to hold an election.

These words Adjournment, Prorogation, and Dissolution can be likened to a comma (a slight pause), a semi-colon (a longer pause), and a full-stop.

But it is with the daily act of adjourning that we are concerned this week, in view of something which happened recently.

A parliamentary day is called a sitting, and it normally ends with a debate brought up by a back-bench M.P. The minimum time for this adjournment debate, as it is termed, is half-an-hour. When the half-hour is up the Speaker adjourns the House until the next sitting, which may be the next day, or after the weekend (if the debate has taken place on a Friday), or after the Christmas, Easter, Whitsun, or summer recesses or breaks for holidays.

## RULES GOVERN DEBATES

Certain rules govern this adjournment debate. The Government takes up most of the time of the Commons with its business. The Question Hour at the start of a sitting, and the adjournment debate at the end, are two occasions on which M.P.s outside the Government take the initiative. It is their privilege at such times—and there are others, too—to criticise the Government and get information from it.

Provided an M.P. keeps within the rules and does not propose new or amended legislation during his speech, he can raise any sub-

ject he likes "on the adjournment." Naturally there is strong competition among M.P.s for the opportunity to raise issues in these brief debates.

So on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays the subjects to be debated are selected by ballot. Subjects to be discussed on Tuesdays and Thursdays are chosen by the Speaker. According to circumstances at the time, the Speaker will give priority, first, to individual or constituency grievances, and, second, to matters of immediate topical interest.

## THE SPEAKER DECIDES

Now to the recent episode mentioned earlier. An M.P. who had won a place in the ballot gave notice that he would raise a certain subject. Later he decided not to raise it. Another M.P. then said, if that was so, why, he would bring it up. This meant claiming the half-hour already allotted to the first M.P. by ballot.

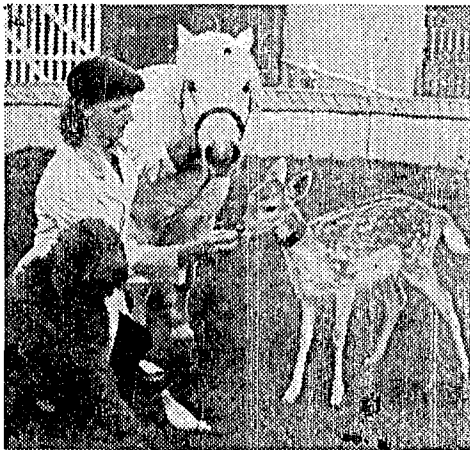
Then the first M.P. asserted his original claim to the half-hour, and said he would use it to discuss a quite different subject.

The Speaker always has to be notified beforehand of the subject an M.P. wishes to raise and the name of the Minister who is to reply to the debate. Equally, if an M.P. later wants to change his subject, he must let the Speaker know.

On this occasion the Speaker agreed that the subject could be changed. So the first M.P. retained his right to open the debate. It may seem a small point, but it shows how carefully Parliament attends to the well-tried courtesies of life at Westminster.

# Cave-temple paintings

Hundreds of years ago Hindus and Buddhists hewed cave temples from the solid rock of hillsides in India and Ceylon, and adorned the walls with beautiful paintings and sculptures. The cave temples fell into disuse, were swallowed up by the jungle, and became the lairs of tigers, and the homes of bats and millions of bees. They were



## Four on the farm

Storkie the pony is friendly with Jock the poodle and Pixie the young fallow deer. And best friend of all is stable-girl Janice Haines, who looks after them at the Manor Pony Stud farm, at Little Brington near Northampton.

re-discovered in comparatively recent times, and now 46 full-size reproductions of their magnificent wall paintings can be seen for the first time in London at the Commonwealth Institute, South Kensington, where they are on view free of charge until November 30.

These splendid copies are the work of a celebrated Armenian artist, the late Sarkis Katchadourian, who for four years devoted himself to his task in the caves under difficult conditions.

The most famous cave temples are those at Ajanta, 300 miles north-east of Bombay, which were the work of Buddhists who went to this remote region about 300 B.C. Ajanta means "a place unknown to the world," and so the temples remained until some British soldiers on a hunting expedition discovered them in 1819.

## Out and About

THE winter flocks of the birds are usually large, but when it is time to roost there is an accommodation problem so they have to break up into smaller parties.

Small birds will often crowd into the abandoned nest of a larger bird, huddling together for company and to keep warm in the cold nights. It may also be a means of protection from enemies.

The little wren likes to roost in a crowd and may do so in all sorts of places. By keeping still we saw at least a dozen disappear the other evening where a tree in the hedge showed its roots here and there above the soil. For several minutes we heard calls of "it-it-it" as each newcomer crept in to find a place somehow in the sheltered and crowded hollow.

Anybody who has an abandoned house-martin's nest under the eaves of the house might hear this calling, and if they watch out will probably see the wrens going in for the night. They will pack themselves together as tightly as sardines in a tin. C. D. D.

# News from Everywhere

A hoard of 2800 silver coins bearing the date 1530 was recently found by children playing in the cellar of an old inn at Mattersburg, Austria.

An owl recently came down a chimney at Wollaton Park, Nottinghamshire, and sat on the hearth watching the television until a policeman was called to take it away.

Seven of the husky dogs used by Sir Vivian Fuchs in the Antarctic are to work in an ambulance service for skiers around Oslo.

So that submarines may enter their base in Portsmouth Harbour more easily the 141-year-old training ship Foudroyant is to be moved to a new anchorage.

## COIN UNDER THE BON FIRE

While clearing up after a bonfire in his garden at Cromer, eleven-year-old Ian Roper spotted a strange coin. At the Norwich Museum it was identified as a bronze Roman coin minted in Constantinople more than 1600 years ago.

It is estimated that there are now 80,000 caravans, used as homes in England and Wales by about 250,000 people.

## WRONG ABOUT WENDY

On this page last week we published a picture of Julia Lockwood, who is to play the part of Wendy in this year's production of Peter Pan at the Scala. Unfortunately we called her "Judy," and we now offer our sincere apologies for getting her name wrong.

## THEY SAY . . .

I OFTEN go and stand in the bus queue at peak hours to hear what people are saying.

Sir John Elliott, Chairman of London Transport

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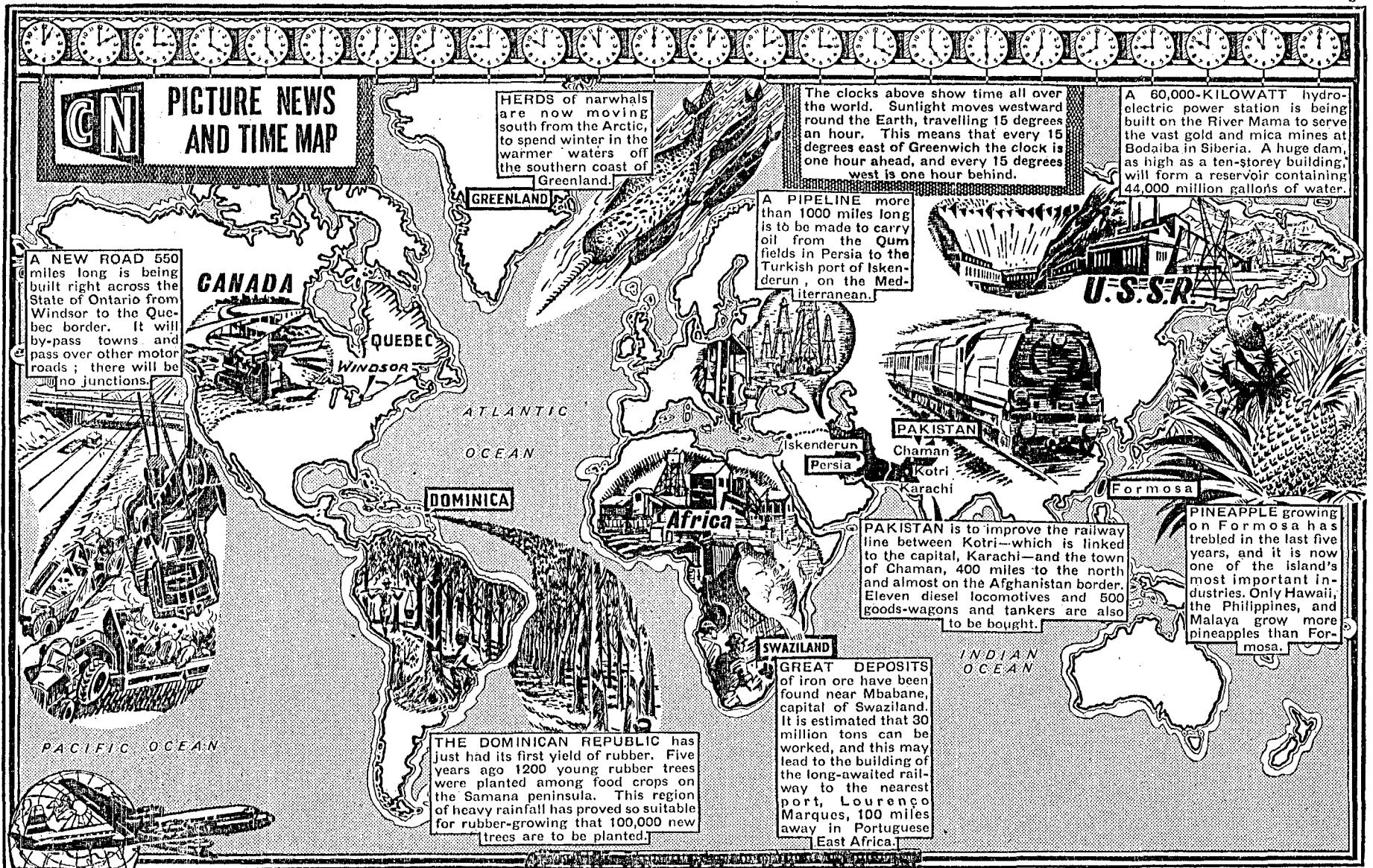
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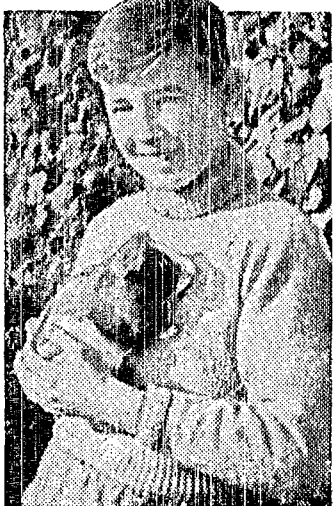


## S PLAN FOR YOUTH

What he called the S plan for teenagers was recently described by Mr. T. G. C. Woodford, headmaster of Leeds Grammar School.

He said that four things—Sport, Service, Savings, and Schooling—would help to solve the teenage problem. More organised games were wanted and more space to play them in. As to service—teenagers should be given a job in which they could help the community. Some of their pocket money should be saved instead of spent and, lastly, there should be a measure of further schooling for all young people in the 15 to 18 age group.

## Good Friends



CN reader Peter Reynolds with his young guinea-pig Billy. They live at Eynsham, near Oxford.

## Frog jumps to success

Young Jonathan Leakey, of Nairobi, who catches snakes for sale to zoos, also collects frogs. One of these, which he calls Vesta, has just won the world's frog-jumping championship at Elsburg, near Johannesburg.

Although one of the smallest frogs competing, Vesta covered 15 feet 14 inches in three jumps, 3 inches more than its nearest competitor.

The frog's triumph was watched by an audience of more than 3000 people, as well as hundreds of thousands who followed the championship on television.

## WATCHES FOR CN READERS

Congratulations to the following five winners of CN Competition No. 11, who each receive a "Timex" Wrist-Watch: Anne Holland, Maidstone; Nicola Roe, Slough; Simon Sheers, London, N.20; Charlotte Stewart, Donaghmore; and Arthur Tuppen, Beccles.

Five-shilling Postal Orders have been awarded to these runners-up: Susan Curtis, Rochester; Sarah Faux, Cirencester; Rita Kennard, Rugby; Janis Learner, Chelsfield; Anne Morgan, Leicester; Janet Rowe, Eynsham; Pamela Russell, Newark; Irene Smith, Sutton Coldfield; Davine Sutherland, Invergordon; and Barbara Wigelsworth, Cheltenham.

## BIG TANK FOR LITTLE SHIPS

Europe's longest research tank is now being completed at Feltham, Middlesex. Intended for testing model ships to find improved design, it is part of a new research laboratory for studying hydrodynamics—the science of the motion of liquids.

Over 1300 feet long and 48 feet wide, the tank looks like a huge indoor swimming bath. Along one side will run an electric carriage capable of towing model ships at about 34 m.p.h.

It is possible that a model of Britain's first nuclear-powered merchant ship will be among the first to be tried out when the tank is ready for use next year.

Another impressive feature of the new hydrodynamics laboratory, which will cost £2,000,000, is the biggest water tunnel in the world. This will be used for testing ships' propellers.

## £1000 in Shillings

A Worthing lady, Mrs. E. M. Campbell, has now raised £1000 for the King George's Fund for Sailors. She earned this sum in shillings by giving sketches of people's character based upon their handwriting.

Thousands of people have sent a shilling and return postage to have their character judged in this way over the past few years, and Mrs. Campbell has now reached her target figure for the Fund.

## Oil on the Roads

A type of road surface new to Britain is now being tested in the Isle of Skye. Designed by the Swedish Road Institute, the surface consists of a layer of chemically-treated oil sprayed on to ordinary gravel roads. The oil is so treated that it cannot be washed off by rain, or scraped off by traffic. The oil binds the gravel together, and the traffic helps to roll it firm.

As well as being cheap to lay, the roads are proof against frost, for the surface merely loosens in cold weather, to be packed down again later on by the traffic.

If the tests on Skye are successful, this surface may be used in some rural parts of Scotland.

## STATION DUCK

Donald the duck has long been part of the fixtures of the station at Tresmeer, near the Cornish town of Launceston. When he is not in his usual corner in the little booking office he is contentedly watching the trains go by.

He waddled on to the platform one day in 1944 and has stayed there ever since, following the station staff around, and using the level crossing to get from one platform to another.

He seems to know exactly when to expect the 12 trains which pass through Tresmeer every weekday; and on Sundays, when there are no trains, Donald just finds himself a place under a nearby bridge and sleeps there until Monday.

## DIAMOND OF TRAGEDY

The Hope Diamond, said to have brought misfortune to its owners, has been given to the Smithsonian Institution by an American jeweller, Mr. Harry Winston.

Named after one of its former owners, this blue stone weighs just over 44 carats and is insured for £357,000. It is believed to have been the eye of a Hindu idol. Legend has it that wild dogs killed the man who stole it, and misfortune seems to have dogged successive owners, one of whom was Marie Antoinette.

## On his toes



Joan Kruse, a former manicurist, is now married to an elephant trainer with the Bertram Mills Circus. Here she is at work on big Kam's toes to keep him trim for his performance.



## ERNEST THOMSON WRITES ABOUT RADIO AND TELEVISION PERSONALITIES AND PROGRAMMES

Announcing  
with an accent

A SLIGHT South of England accent is no bar to the appointment of a new relief announcer Southern Television have been seeking for their studios at Southampton. The head of presentation says: "Naturally we do not want anyone with a strong accent of any type, but perhaps the soft Sussex or Hampshire burr, or the deeper Dorset, Wilts., or Somerset accent might appeal."

Many older listeners may remember that Wilfred Pickles first came to London in the 1940s because the BBC wanted a news-reader with a Yorkshire accent. It would be interesting if all the Regions, BBC, and ITV, tried announcers whose accents gave the programmes a splash of local atmosphere.

## A woman's place

LOTS of mothers, I expect, will be watching Thrash It Out in BBC Children's TV on Sunday evening, for this battle of words will be fought on the proposition that A Woman's Place is in the Home. The contestants are the pupils of two Cardiff schools—the Cathays High School for Girls and the Cathays High School for Boys.

Hywel Davies, as usual, will be in the chair. It looks as if he may have a tough job.

Puppets for  
a ballet

THE Hogarth Puppets have not been seen on television for quite a time. Next Sunday in BBC Children's TV, Ann Hogarth and her husband Jan Russell are introducing their new Bluebeard troupe, specially made for a puppet ballet. It will have its first public performance at the Oxford Playhouse at Christmas.

MORE HOT CHESTNUTS Who will be Top  
of the Form?

JOHNNY MORRIS, you will have noticed, now has a spot of his own as The Hot Chestnut Man in BBC Children's TV. He used to be just one of the items, though a very likeable one, in Playbox. Johnny will be telling the tale every Monday until December 22.

His manner is so free and easy that you would never guess how much work he puts into each story. Everything he says on TV he writes out by hand. He once told me that he spends about an hour on every hundred words.

Johnny is a Monmouthshire man, but once worked in a Lon-

don office. He has also been the back legs of a pantomime horse in South Wales. Later he had to deal with real horses as a bailiff on a Wiltshire farm.



QUESTIONMASTERS John Ellison and Robert MacDermot will be facing up to the second-round battle of the schools in Top of the Form, which starts in the Light Programme this Thursday. The South Hampstead High School (Girls) compete against Whitehaven Grammar School (Boys).

The teams are also well separated—geographically speaking—in the following two weeks. Foyle College, Londonderry (Boys) will be matched against Wolverhampton High School for Girls on December 4, and the Hawarden Grammar School, Flintshire (Boys) against the County Grammar School for Boys, Barry, on December 11.

The first semi-final will be broadcast on Christmas Day.

## Railway Roundabout

DID you spot the copy of CN which was held up in front of the cameras in the November 4 edition of Railway Roundabout in BBC Children's TV? Viewers were shown the front page carrying a picture of the 69-year-old tank engine (built for the former Lancashire and Yorkshire Railway) which has been restored and scheduled for preservation by the British Transport Commission.

Next Tuesday Railway Roundabout will include films of trains working over the famous two-mile-long Lickey Incline in Worcestershire, which, with a gradient of 1 in 38, is the steepest in the British Isles.

Among the guests will be a permanent way inspector.

TV tower third of  
a mile high

A TELEVISION tower 1666 feet high is to be built shortly in Moscow. Over 200 feet across at its base, the tower will be only 22 feet across at its upper section. Viewing platforms will be built at a height of 1300 feet.

## Christmas carols for overseas

ALTHOUGH the Christmas toy bazaars have been in full swing for some weeks now, you might think it a bit early for carols. But last week the boys of Chetham's School, Manchester, telerecorded a complete carol service which BBC viewers will see and hear on December 16.

Why so early? Because the

programme is wanted by the BBC Transcription Service for sending to Australia and Canada for their own Christmas television programmes.

The boys will be seen in traditional gowns of the style dating back to the school's foundation by Humphrey Chetham in the 17th century.

## The first Quiz

LAST week I told you of the claim by Children's Hour Regional Round to be the first quiz programme ever broadcast. Now the BBC has had a letter from Mr. Roy Ward Dickson, genial host of the ITV programme, Turnabout, stating that the first quiz show was aired on May 15, 1935, over a Canadian radio station. This beats Regional Round by two and a half years.

David Davis, head of Children's Hour, does not dispute what Mr. Dickson says. "But Regional Round still has the distinction of being the first quiz broadcast in this country," he says.

Northern Ireland  
to have ITV

NORTHERN IRELAND is to have ITV programmes towards the end of next year. The studios will be at Belfast.

It is expected that more than a million viewers will be brought within range of the programmes transmitted from ITA's station near Belfast at Black Mountain.

Some parts of Northern Ireland, however, may still be out of reach. They include Fermanagh, the western parts of the counties of Tyrone and Londonderry, a small part of County Down, and the Antrim coast from Larne to Portrush.

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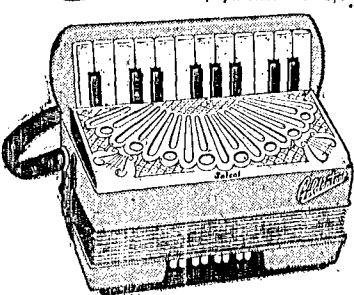
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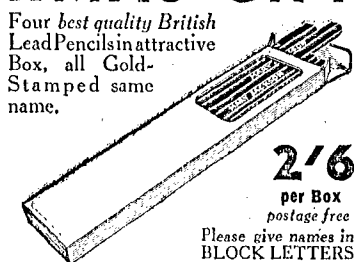
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## TAKE IT FROM HERE AGAIN

LISTENERS to Take It From Here, which returns to the Light Programme this Thursday, will soon be asking whether Ron Glum (Dick Bentley) and Eth (June Whitfield) are at last going to get married.

When they were first heard together on the air in the autumn of 1953, Ron and Eth had already been engaged for two years. The last time they nearly got married was when Ron was sent to make last-minute arrangements for the wedding reception at the local cinema café. But he forgot everything in the excitement of watching a Western film.

Jimmy Edwards (Mr. Glum) will be back, of course. He and Dick Bentley have never missed a performance since the opening broadcast on March 23, 1948. Wallas Eaton will also be back.



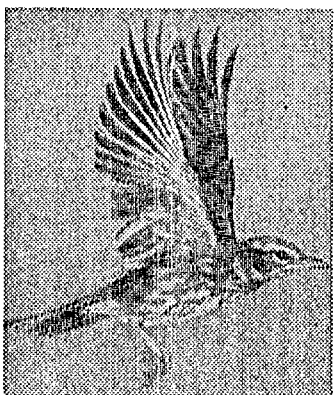


The Children's Newspaper, November 29, 1958

# LOOK OUT FOR THESE WINTER VISITORS

It is two months now since the swallows all flew away, and longer still since the last cuckoo departed for Africa. Many people do not realise that as one lot of birds fly south to warmer climates to spend the winter, so another lot fly in to take their place. To birds that breed in Norway, Sweden, and even Russia, the climate of the British Isles is as warm in the winter as is that of Africa to our swallows, nightingales, and warblers.

Two of the most frequently seen of the winter immigrants, which are here in full force by the end of November, are the fieldfare and redwing, relatives of our blackbird and song thrush. They fly about the country in flocks, often together, and can frequently be seen in parks or on playing fields in suburban districts. When I lived near Hampstead Heath in North London, I often used to



Redwing Eric Hosking

districts you will still hear it called "felt," "felfer," or "bluc-back." As flocks of fieldfares fly over you can hear them make their chuckling call-note, *chack-chack, chack-chack*.

The redwing is a smaller bird, looking rather like a small, dark song thrush, but with a distinctive pale stripe over the eye and a chestnut-red mark on the flank under the wing. Its name comes from this mark. The call of the redwing is a very high-pitched *seeh*, often to be heard overhead as the birds migrate at night in the late autumn and early winter.

We know that some at least of the fieldfares and redwings that come to Britain each winter breed in Scandinavia, for birds marked there with a numbered aluminium ring on the leg have been recovered here. (Every European country has its bird-ringing scheme, and I will write about this interesting activity soon.) Nestling fieldfares ringed in Norway and Lapland have been recovered in the West of England, and so has an older bird that was migrating through the German island of Heligoland, where there is a famous bird observatory.

Another interesting winter visitor from northern Europe is the

brambling, which often comes with chaffinches and likes especially to feed under beech trees. You can tell it when it flies up because it has a white rump.

Fieldfares, redwings, and bramblings are all birds that do not normally breed in any part of the British Isles, although there are exceptional cases of redwings and bramblings having done so. But many of our common breeding birds also come to us as winter visitors. Every autumn huge flocks of rooks, jackdaws, starlings, chaffinches, and skylarks, among others, fly across the North Sea; many come to spend the winter with us, while others fly on to warmer places on the Continent.

All the gulls you see in the London parks and along the Thames are also winter immigrants. We know that nearly all the gulls that visit London in winter spend their summer in the countries around the Baltic Sea. Ducks and geese also come to us



Fieldfare John Markham

in huge numbers each winter. The famous geese that visit Peter Scott's wildfowl grounds at Slimbridge fly there every year from the north of Russia.

RICHARD FITTER

## Veteran car pictures

There is increasing interest in veteran motor cars—the early models produced 50 or 60 years ago and then known as "horseless carriages." So the Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents has produced a series of cards illustrating these early models both for collectors and for distribution by Road Safety Committees.

On the back of each card is a brief description of the veteran car shown and also an interesting Road Sense Quiz. A special album has also been produced, so that the cards can be inserted in the appropriate places without losing sight of the information.

The full set of twenty-four cards can also be obtained direct from ROSPA. The price is one shilling for the set of cards, and the album costs ninepence.

Orders of this kind should be addressed to the Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents, Terminal House, Grosvenor Gardens, London, S.W.1.

## STAMP NEWS

INDIA is marking the centenary of the birth of two of her great men. One stamp, now available, honours the memory of Bipinchandra Pal, a nationalist movement leader; the other, to be issued next Sunday, commemorates Sir Jagadis Chandra Bose, the plant scientist.

THE Rhodesia Federation is to have a new set of stamps—from ½d. to £1—in about six months' time. They will depict scenes and industries of Rhodesia and Nyasaland.

MOTHER MARY AIKENHEAD, founder of the Irish Sisters of Charity, is the first woman pictured on an Irish stamp. Two issues, 3d. blue and 1s. 3d. red, mark the centenary of her death.

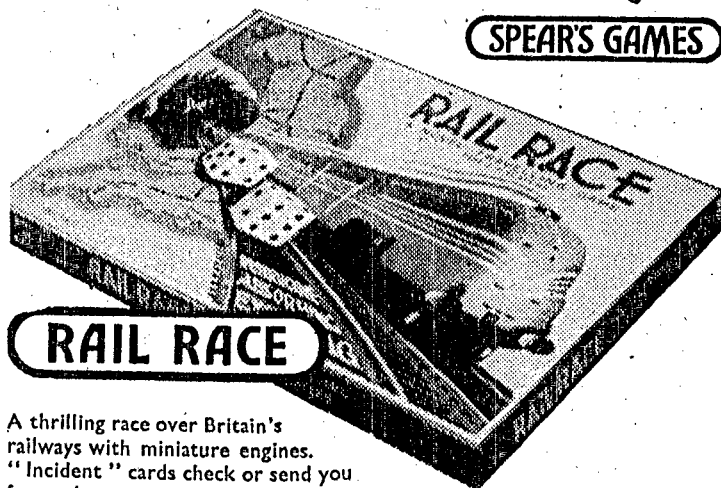
THERE has been little demand for Canada's six-cent (introduced in 1954) and it will not be re-issued.

AUSTRALIA'S Post Office was established on April 25, 1809, and a stamp is to be issued next year to mark the 150th anniversary.

# Everyday-its

## Fun to play-

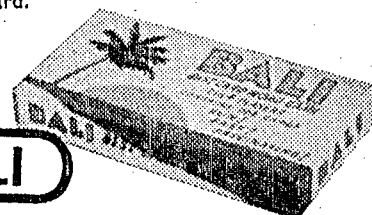
SPEAR'S GAMES



### RAIL RACE

A thrilling race over Britain's railways with miniature engines. "Incident" cards check or send you forward as you make your own winning route, on a large stout map-board. 2-6 players.

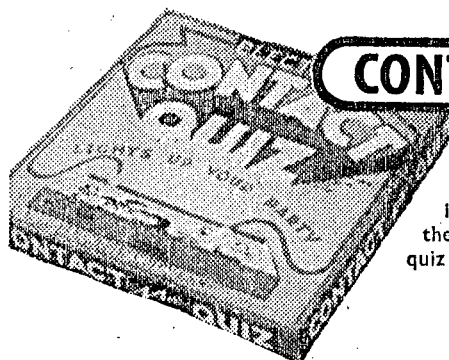
17/11



### BALI

Bali is the best pocket size word game for 1-4 players, entirely different from any other, being neither a crossword nor patience type of game. It contains 108 fine patience size playing cards. Play it alone or with your friends.

7/6



### CONTACT QUIZ

This unique electrical quiz game will fascinate and absorb. Questions are asked, if the answer is right, on goes the light. Complete with 12 quiz cards, but without battery.

12/11



### FLOUNDERING

Everyone can join in this game—yes, even the very young! And the fun is tremendous! Players collect their flounders by throwing the dice and rob opponents of their catches. The ideal party game.

6/9



### TELL ME

The queen of quiz games. Provides endless fun for children 8-15 and grown-ups enjoy it too. Spin the wheel and roll out the questions! Any number can play.

6/-

Obtainable from good toyshops and departmental stores. If your dealer cannot supply, write for address of nearest stockist to:

J. W. SPEAR & SONS LTD. Dept. C, Enfield, Mddx.



Brambling Eric Hosking

see them there. In really cold weather they will come to parks right in the middle of big towns.

The fieldfare is quite big, the size of a missel thrush, and can easily be recognised by its blue-grey head and rump, chestnut back, blackish tail, and breast spotted like a thrush. In country

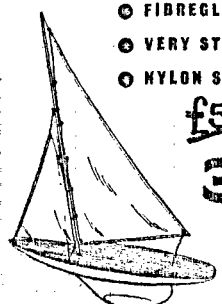
## Superlative MODEL YACHT

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Inc. P.T. Guaranteed to sail fast and straight. Carriage 5/-



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## MALTA GEORGE CROSS FREE

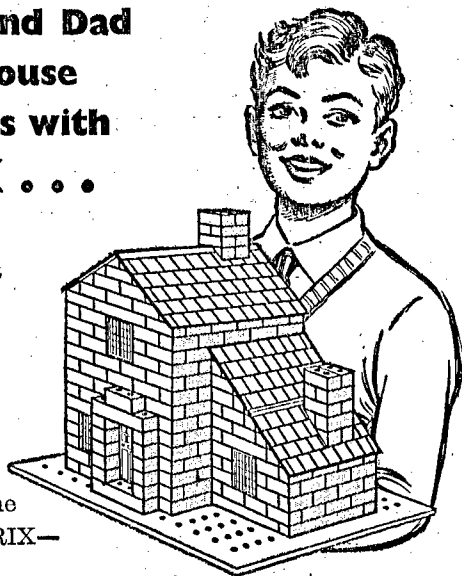
DO YOU KNOW that on April 15th last, Malta issued a set of stamps to commemorate the conferment of the George Cross on the people of the Island for their fortitude in the War? That these stamps were withdrawn and became obsolete after one week? THAT we will send to YOU, ABSOLUTELY FREE, a packet of 6 MALTA STAMPS, including the 1½d. George Cross? Just ask to see our Superior Discount Approvals enclosing 3d. stamp (Overseas 1/6) for postage—and please tell your Parents.

M. HUTCHINSON (45), Old Cedars Cottage, Westwood Hill, Sydenham, S.E.26

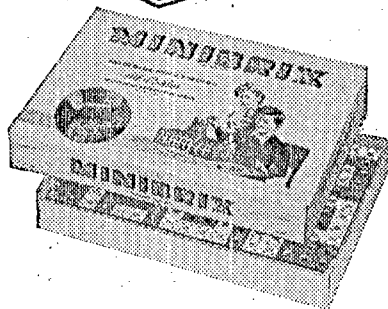


## Build Mum and Dad a fine new house this Christmas with **MINIBRIX**...

and right through the year you will get hours of enjoyment building castles and cottages, farmhouses and factories, schools and stations, also hundreds of other fine models with MINIBRIX—the all-rubber interlocking bricks.



- HYGIENIC AND SAFE
- HARMLESS TO FURNITURE
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- ALMOST EVERLASTING



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REGISTERED TRADE MARK

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**MINIBRIX LIMITED . PETERSFIELD . HANTS**

## NEW FILMS

# Selling guns to cowboys

**M**OST of us enjoy a good Western, full of mad-riding cowboys and Red Indians—but anybody who sees *The Sheriff of Fractured Jaw* may find it difficult ever to take a "serious" Western film seriously again! For this new picture makes a great joke of these films and it is happy fun all the way.

Kenneth More plays the part of an Englishman at the end of the last century, who has inherited his family's gunsmith business in the West End of London. But the business is not doing very well, so Kenneth has the bright

idea of visiting the wild, woolly West to sell his guns to the natives, who, it seems, are always fighting with somebody or other.

He arrives, a polite English greenhorn, and immediately runs into trouble when his stage-coach is held up by Red Indians. But Kenneth does not approve of such rough behaviour. With only an umbrella as a weapon, and with a disapproving finger which he wags at the chief of the Indians, he takes away the brave's tomahawk and quells the riot. The people of Fractured Jaw are so impressed with his cool bravery that they persuade him to become sheriff.

Thus it is that poor Kenneth More finds himself in the middle of a great quarrel between two rival sets of ranchers. Gaily, happily, he cleans up the battle and still finds time to fall in love with Jane Mansfield, who runs the local hotel.

Kenneth More is very funny as he

learns to fire a revolver, ride a horse bareback, and becomes accepted as a blood-brother of the Red Indian tribe. The dialogue is witty and the Wild West part of it is very realistic. This is a film that the whole family can enjoy. It sets out to make gentle fun of the Wild West film and it does so cleanly and cleverly.



Kenneth More, as the Englishman, is annoyed at the behaviour of the Indian chief—a scene from *The Sheriff of Fractured Jaw*

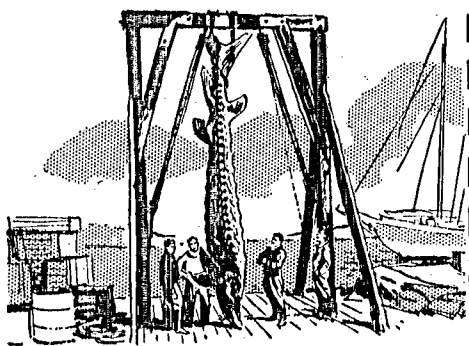
## BUSY BEAVERS

Ten years ago U.S. officials let loose two beavers on a pond in the town of Fletcher, Vermont. It was an experiment, and one with most unhappy results for the town. The beavers multiplied, built a dam across the pond's outlet, and flooded the road. Engineers have blown up the dam several times, but the industrious beavers have always returned to repair the damage.

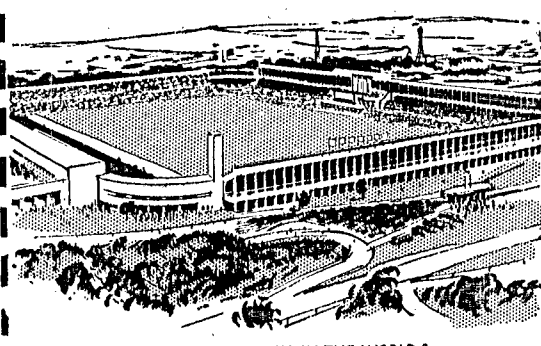
Someone once had the idea of installing blinking lights across the dam to scare the beavers away. All they did was to enable the animals to work at night.

The problem has not yet been solved.

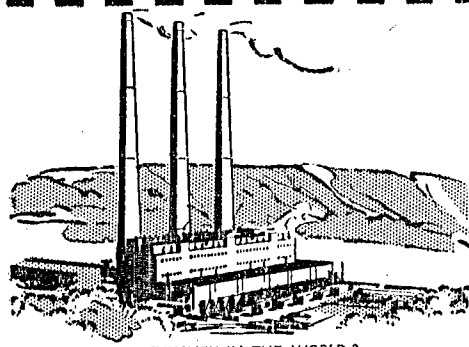
## WHAT IS THE BIGGEST...?



1. FRESHWATER FISH IN THE WORLD?



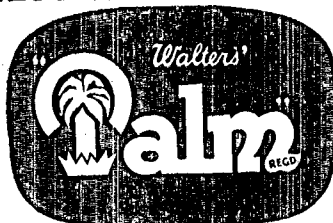
2. FOOTBALL STADIUM IN THE WORLD?



3. CHIMNEY IN THE WORLD?

ANSWERS  
BELOW.

**AND NOW - WHAT IS THE BIGGEST  
VALUE IN TOFFEE? THAT'S EASY -**



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7 Delicious Flavours—Fruit & Nut, Creamy, Strawberry Split, Chocolate Nougat, Banana Split, Liquorice Nougat, Treacle Sandwich.

1. Russian Scurgeon. 26 feet long. 2. Stroph Stadium, Prague. 240,000 capacity. 3. Ohio Electric Corporation, Madison, Indiana. Overall 707 feet, 682 feet above ground.

## Two on the run

**D**ANNY KAYE's new picture, *Me and the Colonel*, shows us a very different Danny from the one we saw in *Merry Andrew*. He plays a straight character part.

Me and the Colonel is a quiet, film, but with plenty of laughs. Its object is to show how stupid race prejudice is, and also how a quiet character can often be a stronger one than a loud-mouthed, blustering type. Danny plays a gentle Jew who has been turned out of his home and country by the Nazis.

When the film starts he is on the run again, as the German army moves towards Paris. Also leaving Paris is a Polish officer (played with great assurance by Curt Jurgens) who shows that he

does not like Jews either. But, quietly, Danny makes himself indispensable to the officer. They need a car to get away from Paris, for instance. Danny owns the only one available.

So the two of them, together with the officer's batman and his girl friend, set out on a precarious car journey towards England, with the Nazis close on their heels. Every time Curt Jurgens blusters, Danny Kaye quietly puts things right. In the end a feeling of danger shared has taught the two of them mutual respect and understanding.

There is quite a lot of quiet wisdom in this film and, although it moves slowly, it is always gripping and fascinating entertainment.



The Colonel (Curt Jurgens) and the Jew (Danny Kaye) set off with the batman (Akim Tamiroff)—a scene from *Me and the Colonel*



# HOME-MADE PITCH IN THE TROPICS

An African Sixth Form schoolboy, Benaya Majisu, here tells how the boys of his school levelled and planted their own soccer pitch 100 miles south of the Equator.

IMAGINE you are standing on top of Ben Nevis; then climb almost as high again—this is the height at which we had to make our football field. Alliance High School, where I go, is a secondary school for African boys in Kenya Colony. It is about 350 miles north-west of Mombasa and situated in the temperate Highlands although only 100 miles south of the Equator. We are rather unique in that we draw our students from all over the colony.

An analysis of the school population shows that, among the 200 boarders, we have representatives of 22 different tribes and 73 different schools; among this babel of voices the only common language is English. Each year we send forward some 50 boys for their Cambridge School Certificate.

## NATIONAL GAME

Our achievements on the scholastic side include the absence of a failure in School Certificate for 12 years, and in athletics and games we are also striving to build up a tradition of which we may one day be proud. Of all the games introduced into our country, football has proved to be the most popular and we look upon it now as our national game. It is, therefore, not surprising, that, in our school, football is considered to be very important, and that every evening in the week at least two evenings are to be seen playing a match or being coached by one of the masters.

As our school expanded, we found the need for a second playing-field. There was a site for it, but this was out of the horizontal in at least two directions and we eventually decided that six

feet of soil must be excavated at one end of the field and deposited at the other! Other quite extensive levelling operations were also needed.

Some years before, our other field had been excavated by hand and it took many months, but the task before us now was even more daunting. The field sloped slightly from east to west; it also sloped considerably from north to south; and there was a valley down the centre. As we had determined at the same time to build a quarter-mile track round the field, this meant, in addition, excavating into the hillside on the eastern side. In all it amounted to a major operation which one of our budding mathematicians calculated as being equivalent to moving 4000 tons of soil over an average distance of 50 yards—by hand! It meant making just under 1,000,000 journeys with a "karai," as the local containers are called.

## EARLY START

We started with stout hearts, and each day at 4.30 p.m. an army of 200 schoolboys, naked to the waist and aided and abetted by members of the staff, got stuck into the work. The first day was a bad one. A temporary pavilion built of cedar poles and with a grass roof had to be moved farther back. We had been prepared for this to be pulled to pieces, but someone had the apparently bright idea that, if one and all grasped the structure firmly, it might be moved to its new position intact.

New holes were dug and we all stood in position gripping every available square inch of surface. Others used poles to take some of the weight of the roof. Then as it was gradually hoisted upwards, the whole contraption began to reel like a drunken man. As boy after boy ran clear, there was a ghastly sound and the strained erection sank slowly to the earth. Someone shouted that the science

master was trapped underneath the debris. A quick rush and he was soon released, but not before his foot had been rather severely crushed, which meant a stay of one or two weeks in hospital. Boys who had been trapped soon recovered, and no one appeared to have suffered serious harm. So ended the first day of work on the new football field.

We toiled steadily but slowly, and gradually the grass disappeared and the field took on a new appearance. It was then that an important announcement was made at the school parade. It was that the headmaster had approached the Board of Governors who, on hearing of our industry, decided that a sum of £400 could be spent to help on the excavations. There was a great cheer at this news, for it meant that we would now have a second football field several months earlier than we had anticipated.

It was a great day when we heard and saw, puffing up the hill at the entrance to the school, a large thumping bulldozer. I cannot express to you our feelings as we saw this monster excavating mountains of soil in the twinkling of an eye, equal to hours of laborious effort. Each day, in spare moments, groups of boys could be seen gazing at the huge machine at work. Soon the levels began to change and not a blade of grass was to be seen anywhere.

## HAND DIGGING

One day the bulldozer ceased to bulldoze, and quite suddenly it disappeared. Then came another monstrosity, this time a leveller, which moved further mountains of soil. All was going well until suddenly the contractor decided that the £400 had been used up and refused to do any more. So there was nothing for it but re-start the hand-digging.

Each day we went down with wheelbarrows and "karais" filling-



Planting grass on the newly-levelled ground



Boundary lines were cut in the turf and filled with black earth

in here, building-up there. It was the hot season and often it seemed as if our day's work was a mere fleabite compared with what was still to be done. However, we pressed on, and after several more weeks we produced a reasonably flat surface.

Phase one was complete. Now came phase two—the planting of grass. Local Kikuyu grass is suitable for sports fields, so we made use of it. The method is to take "stolons" or runners from established grass and, using these as sets, to cover the whole field. We found it best for this purpose to work in "Houses," of which we have four—Livingstone, Aggrey, Wilberforce, and Grievie. Each House took over a quarter of the field and made itself responsible for the planting, the finding of the grass, and the watering. At first we used watering-cans, but later we managed to bring an extension of the main water pipe-line down to the field.

## HUNDREDS OF JOURNEYS

This was a particularly great boon, for at this time of the year water was essential for the establishment of the young grass. The planting was by no means straightforward, and many patches had to be redone, especially in those parts which had been deeply excavated and which consisted almost entirely of sub-soil. For these we had to make hundreds of journeys to the forest to obtain fertile soil as a top-dressing.

You know how a farmer in

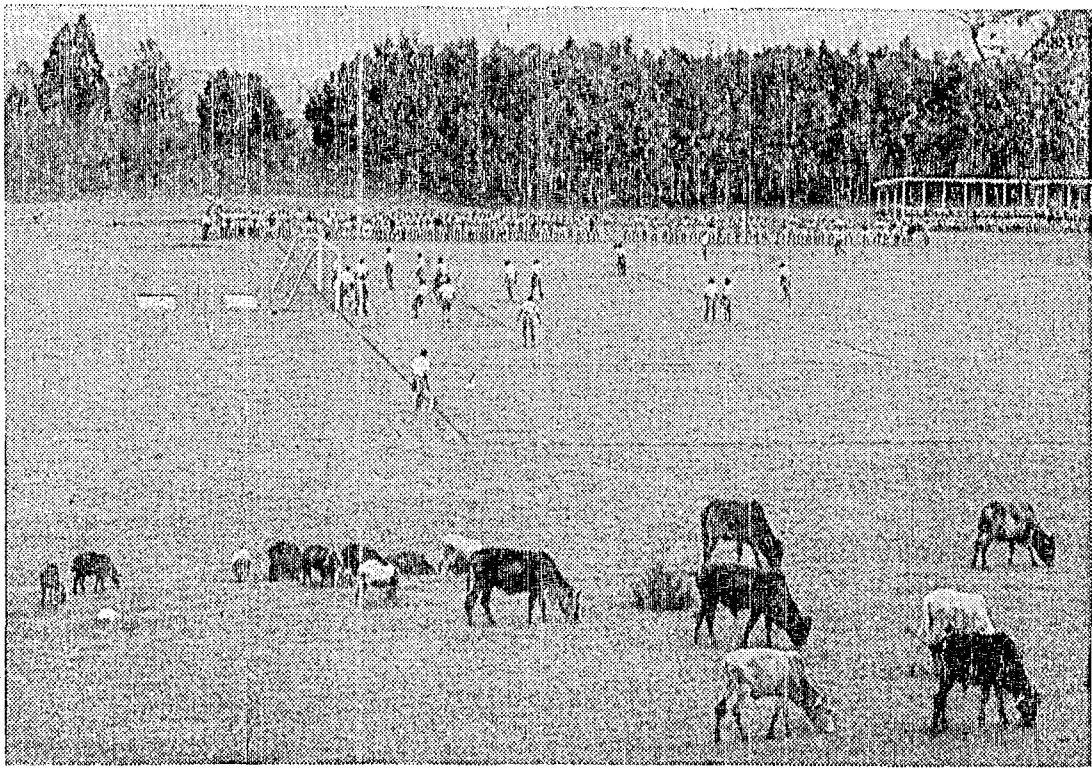
springtime will leave his house in the early morning and cast an anxious eye over the planted fields for the first sign of growth. In just the same way the boys of our school watched the bare playing-field become covered at first with a faint and later with a full flush of deep, luscious green. Then one day the rains came and soon patches which shot up ahead of the others had to be cut down. What had once been a bare, ugly scar was soon clothed with soft green grass.

## THE MOWERS ARRIVE

Phase three was the arrival of the mowers. Steadily they ate their way through the rich green mat, leaving behind a closely cropped and efficient-looking field, until one day the goalposts were erected and the lines were measured and cut. We now had a really first-class football-field situated among ideal surroundings—a forest on one side and a natural amphitheatre on two of the other sides. Around the field we marked out the quarter-mile track.

It was a proud day when we invited our first guests to play on the new field, and, of course, we won our first match, which is as it should be. It has been the scene of many other matches since then. Win or lose, playing on our new field is all the sweeter when we remember the hard work that went into building it.

(Reprinted, by permission, from the F.A. News.)



Cattle grazing near the touch-line during a game on the fine new pitch



# Taking care of the Roman Wall

Each morning a small van leaves Carlisle Castle and travels 18 miles to Gilsland, where a fine stretch of Hadrian's Wall is being unearthed and preserved.

This great Roman rampart, 73½ miles long, stretches right across the North of England from Bowness on the Solway Firth to Wallsend-on-Tyne. It was built on the orders of the Emperor Hadrian between 122 and 126 A.D. and finally abandoned towards the end of the fourth century.

During the centuries since then the wall has been used as a handy quarry of ready-squared stones by the local people in need of material for building houses and barns or filling up pot-holes in roads. The result is that in many places only the lower courses of the wall still exist and they have been grown over by turf. The Ministry is now exposing what is left to view for the public to see.

The men in the van are employees of the Ministry of Works. Three-and-a-half years have gone by since work began on this stretch of wall, which runs for

more than a mile from the remains of the old Roman fort at Birdoswald. Now ten courses of stones are showing in places, and the work will be completed next year.

Another party of men is based on Corbridge for work on the eastern part of the wall and the great forts of Housesteads and Chesters.

Few Roman objects have been found by the workmen, although they occasionally encounter pieces of pottery. But they have a high opinion of Roman workmanship. Some of the Roman mortar with which the wall was bound is as hard as it was when first mixed by the Romans.

The treated sections of the wall have modern cement as a binder, but this does not show when the work is finished, for it has been pointed with lime and coarse sand, which harmonises with the warm tones of the old stones. Where rebuilding is necessary, photographs are taken of every section as it is exposed so that the facing stones can be replaced as nearly as possible in their original positions.



## Hullo, there!

Two new young chimpanzees, Bebe and Anne, have been presented to the London Zoo and are settling down well.

## Altar rails tell a story in iron

The new hand-forged altar rails in the American Memorial Chapel in St. Paul's Cathedral, London, have been cleverly and beautifully designed to emphasise the heritage shared by the two great English-speaking nations and also the long history of the Cathedral site.

There is a representation of the stone tablets brought from Mount Sinai by Moses, indicating the unity between Britain and the United States founded upon a love of the Bible and a respect for law.

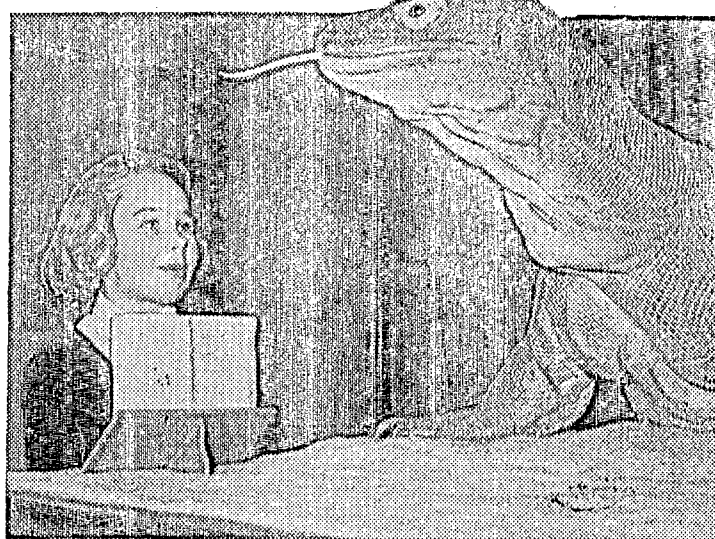
The burning bush, seen in the desert by Moses, is also shown to indicate the sanctity of the cathedral site, while its long history is

## TAKING CARE OF YOUR PETS

Readers who have any problems concerning their pets should write to Mr. Charles Trevisick, F.Z.S., Ilfracombe Zoo Park, North Devon. He will answer queries as quickly as possible. But please enclose a stamped, addressed envelope for the reply.

indicated by important dates. For example, the year 607 appears as indicating King Ethelbert's association with St. Paul's. The year 1300 was the one in which old St. Paul's was completed; and 1607 marks the founding of the first permanent English settlement on the mainland of America—1000 years after the founding of the Saxon church on the site of St. Paul's.

We find 1666, the year of the destruction of the old building in the Great Fire of London; and 1710, when the present building designed by Sir Christopher Wren was completed; and 1776 the year of the American Declaration of Independence.



## Good Look at a Big Lizard

A young visitor to the Natural History Museum, South Kensington, examines the giant lizard found only on the small island of Komodo, in the Malay Archipelago.

## RADIO AMATEURS CALLING

Continued from page 1

two years ago the Postmaster General relaxed the rules, "allowing" hams to pass messages officially for the Red Cross.

Today, hams are officially recognised and encouraged; they have their own organisation in this country—the Radio Society of Great Britain—and many of them have helped in the programme for the International Geophysical Year.

They also have certain parts of the short wave band reserved for their special use; but long before there were any short wave bands on receiving sets young people were experimenting with simple apparatus and discovering that messages could be sent right across the world by using the "short waves" which many engineers had thought useless.

In fact, in the first two-way communication between Britain and New Zealand (in 1924) a schoolboy was operating one of the sets.

How can you become a radio

amateur? Well, first of all it is necessary to obtain a licence, and this means passing a technical examination and a Morse Code test (at 12 words a minute). Starting from scratch it should be possible to qualify for a licence within a year.

What about equipment? Well, many boys start with a receiving set which can be built for about £2 or bought for about £7. A small but complete amateur station—receiver and transmitter—can be built for £20, even less if you have any of the component parts from an old radio.

The necessary equipment can easily be fitted into a corner of your room, and decorated with the QSL cards which are often exchanged to provide a record of two-way communications with interesting and far-off stations.

"I myself am only an amateur," said Marconi on one occasion. Today there are 250,000 hams echoing his words—and enjoying one of the most interesting hobbies in the world.

## HEREWARD THE WAKE—picture-version of Charles Kingsley's tale of Saxon England (8)



The English refugee ladies at St. Omer urged Hereward to rally his fellow-countrymen against the Norman invaders. He went to England with Martin Lightfoot to find out for himself what was going on there. To his horror he found that his old home at Bourne had been given to a Norman cook. Looking through a window into the hall he saw the coarse fellow roistering with his friends.



Shouting his war cry of "A Wake!" Hereward burst into the hall followed by Martin. Taken by surprise, the Normans fought desperately, but the valiant pair soon overcame all 15 of them. Then Hereward went upstairs to his mother, now a widow, whom he had not seen since he had been outlawed by Edward the Confessor. She had been obliged to stay in her room, insulted daily by the rough usurpers of her home.



After arranging for his mother to take refuge in Crowland Abbey, which was still in English hands, Hereward urged the Fenmen to revolt against the invaders. He explained that he had to go to Flanders, to settle his affairs there, but that he would return to lead them. An army provided by King Sweyn of Denmark, he said, would probably land to be their allies in the struggle against William of Normandy.



Soon afterwards Ivo Taillebois, a ruthless Norman baron who had been given rich lands in East Anglia, was riding out with his men when he met a Norman knight and his family who had fled from the English. "Have a care, Ivo Taillebois!" cried the knight. "The English are risen and we are all dead men! The barbarians rose on us last night, with the ruffian who owned my lands at their head!"

Will Hereward's plans for a national revolt prosper? See next week's instalment



# A new series about men who take their lives in their hands LIVING DANGEROUSLY

By Garry Hogg

## I. THE TEST PILOT

### Chapter 1

WHEN, in 1956, Peter Twiss flew the new Fairey Delta II at a speed of 1132 miles an hour and thus gave Britain the official world's air speed record, the attention of all air-minded people the world over was focused on him. Books and articles were written about him and his achievement; he was seen on film and on TV; his name became a household word. Everyone had become aware of his skill and competence, his enterprise and daring, the magnificence of his achievement.

But records, whether of speed, altitude, endurance, or of any other

There have been and are other famous pilots who, though they have run just the same risks, have been more fortunate. To name but a few: Mike Lithgow; Leslie Colquhoun; Roland Beamont, D.S.O., former Wing Commander in the R.A.F., and later chief test pilot for English Electric; Charles 'Chuck' Yeager, of the United States Air Force, the first man to break through the sound barrier; and, perhaps the name best known of all to us, Neville Duke. All these are men who have had the job of flying faster, higher, for longer, than anyone before them.

If a nation is to maintain its own standards in aircraft production

portant switch from drawing-board to full production is—the test pilot.

It is perfectly true that he is a member of a team. He works in closest collaboration with designers, engineers, and research-workers of many kinds. But basically he is an individual worker. He is essentially a lonely worker, because the vital work that he does is almost invariably done entirely alone. Flying alone, usually at a great height—perhaps seven or eight miles above the earth where the atmosphere is more rarefied—he can test his machine with less risk of its destruction through air-resistance; and he is flying a prototype whose potentialities, characteristics and eccentricities are what are called "imponderables"—something hitherto unknown or at best only guessed at, but calling for analysis and conclusions.

### Into the unknown

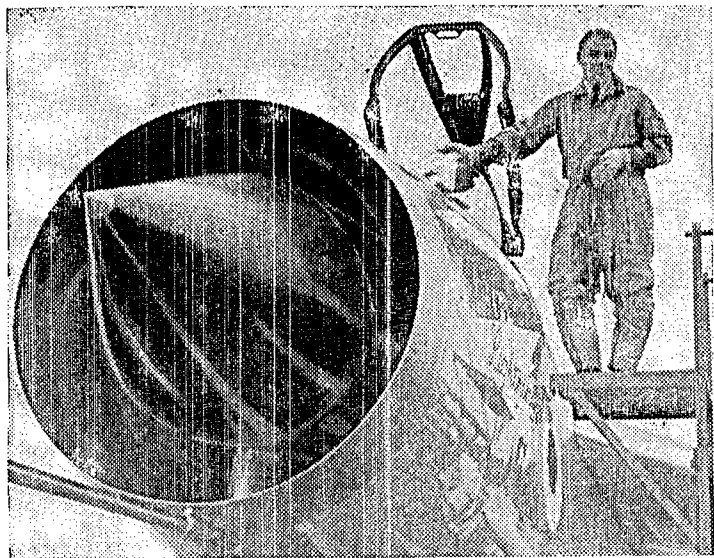
A pilot is venturing into the unknown every time he takes up a new machine, or a machine with a new type of power unit, or some other basic element that has not hitherto been put to the test. Nine times out of ten, perhaps ninety-nine times out of a hundred, perhaps even more often than that, he ventures into the unknown—and returns. But he knows each time he takes off from the runway that the odds may well be against him: the "imponderables" may be massing their forces against his solo courage, patience, and expert knowledge. It is unlikely that any test pilot consciously allows his mind to dwell on such aspects of his job; but subconsciously he knows it is true, and that he would be foolish to deny it.

Obviously a test pilot needs more than the average amount of inborn, unquestioning courage. His whole life, in a way, is a gamble. Like those who race new designs of cars and speed-boats, he is pitting his wits against what is only partially known.

### Different courage

This courage is different from that of, say, the soldier, or even the fireman, who goes swiftly into action against the enemy with hardly the time to weigh the consequences of what he is doing. John Derry's DH 110, diving over the Farnborough crowd at a speed greater than that of sound, exploded in the air. It disintegrated completely. The engines slammed down into the crowd, killing and maiming almost before the average spectator had realised that anything had gone wrong. Fragments of the plane scattered into the air, falling far and wide. The pilot died. At the post-mortem there was no difficulty in finding the cause of his untimely death; it was due to an explosion in an aeroplane.

Continued on page 13



Roland Beamont, chief test pilot of the English Electric, climbs into the cockpit of the P.1.B. Lightning

kind, are made to be broken; a man is famous for a day or two, a week or two at most—and then a name that has been on everybody's lips is suddenly replaced by another name, one that hitherto was known perhaps only to a handful of men in the aircraft industry, and will glow for a short while like a new star in the night sky, soon to be forgotten.

What sort of men are these who break records at fantastic speeds, reach hitherto unachieved altitudes, make non-stop flights longer than any that have been made before? Many of them are ex-R.A.F. pilots; all of them are men with the lure of speed strongly felt in them, with some highly developed capacity for living at their best at a tempo which would be unnatural, perhaps impossible, for the majority of people. Such a man was Wimpey Wade, of Hawkers, who lost his life in 1951 when flying the P. 1081. Another was John Derry, whose new fighter plane, the DH 110, exploded in mid-air at Farnborough in 1952, killing its pilot and killing and injuring also many of the spectators. Yet another was Geoffrey de Havilland,

and performance with other competing nations; still more if it is anxious to achieve supremacy in the air, it cannot afford to relax either the number or the variety of experiments it makes with new designs of air-frame and power unit. Materials which, on paper at any rate, seem likely to solve some hitherto insuperable problem of stress must be tried out in actual flying conditions; power units whose output can be nicely calculated on paper, even on the test-bench, must be fitted to experimental air-frames and tried out in the air.

Wing design, streamlining, engine mounting; these are just a few of the problems which exercise the minds of designers and draughtsmen and engineers throughout their waking hours. Designs, however promising they may seem when on the drawing-boards, or even on the assembly-lines, remain to a large extent speculation; it is only when they have been put to the most rigid and exhaustive tests that can be devised for them that they can be accepted, standardised, and put into production. And the man who is responsible for this all-im-



and the future!

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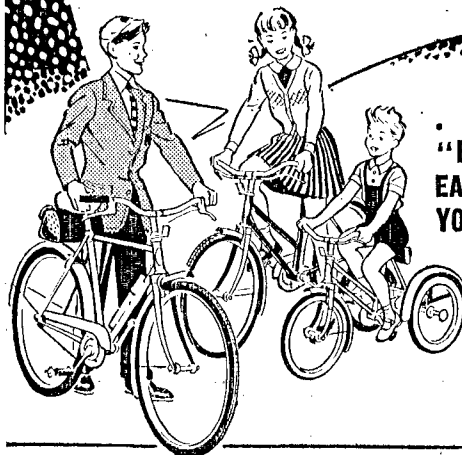
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# GRAND NEW BOOKS TO

## THE ESCAPE OF CHARLES II

Hunt Royal, by David Scott Daniell (Cape, 13s. 6d.)

ONE of the best of all "escape" stories is that of the flight of the young Charles the Second across the western counties of England after his army had been routed at the Battle of Worcester. This thrilling book tells of his adventures as he made his way in disguise from the oak tree at Bos-cobel to the brig which took him from Shoreham to exile in France. It tells, too, of the young Royalists who risked their lives to help their king on his way to safety, hunted all the time by Parliamentary troops and making hairbreadth escapes.

## AUSTRALIAN ADVENTURE

The Bunyip Hole, by Patricia Wrightson (Angus & Robertson, 10s. 6d.)

THE four Collins children, living in the borderland of New South Wales and Queensland, were not quite clear about what a bunyip might be, but according to the Blackfellows it was a huge creature with an emu's head, a horse's mane and tail, and a seal's flippers. The children never saw a bunyip, but they found its lair near their holiday camp, and it was the scene of their most thrilling adventure when their old dog Homer was kidnapped and had to be rescued. The Australian background lends special interest to a story that is full of action.

## ON CLYDEBANK

The Partick Steamboat, by Captain Frank Knight (Macmillan, 12s. 6d.)

EARLY in the 19th century, when Glasgow was only a small town, steam-driven machinery was creating the mines and factories of the new industrial age. But the most significant event came in 1812, when the children ran out of school to see Henry Bell's little steamboat, the Comet, puffing along the shallow Clyde. Other steamboats were to follow, and they caused many a clash between dour Scots who resented change and others who were eager for progress. How this revolution affected various Clydeside folk is dramatically told in this gripping story.

## AWAY FROM DOCK GREEN

Seven Gates to Nowhere, by Ted Willis (Max Parrish, 9s. 6d.)

THE celebrated P.C. Dixon of Dock Green temporarily deserts the television screen—and Dock Green—for a while to investigate some strange goings-on in the Welsh mountains. There he finds that the queer folk of a travelling circus are even more queer than he might have expected. He has never had a more exciting "case."

## FOCUS ON SPEED

Speed, Speed, Speed, by Phyllis R. Fenner (Chatto and Windus, 9s. 6d.)

THE latest in the Triple Title series, this is a collection of American stories about speed of all kinds—on the railways, the race track, the sea; in the air; in a cyclone. Some of the stories are old, some are new; some are fiction, some are fact. All of them are exciting.

## PACIFIC MYSTERY

Scrimshaw and Flying Fish, by Marjorie Sankey (Bell and Sons, 11s. 6d.)

SCRIMSHAW WORK is the name given to designs scratched on whalebone by old-time sailors, and it is a piece of scrimshaw that helps the Penleigh family to solve the mystery of the Mary Pringle, a sailing ship found drifting undamaged in the Pacific with only a baby on board.

The day-to-day adventures of a very likeable family, combined with mystery, make this an entertaining yarn which also has vivid descriptions of life and scenery in the Philippines.

## ROGER IN WONDERLAND

The Land of the Lord High Tiger, by Roger Lancelyn Green (Bell, 11s. 6d.)

THE Land of the Lord High Tiger is a place where the most incredible things are likely to happen—and usually do. Roger and Priscilla never seemed surprised



One of the amusing illustrations by J. S. Goodall in *The Land of the Lord High Tiger*.

that their stuffed animals are able to speak and they take for granted weird adventures that most of us would find rather startling. But it is all very amusing, a lively mixture of fantasy and nonsense that would certainly have won the approval of Lewis Carroll.

## HURRICANE STORY

Green Sailors in the Caribbean, by Gilbert Hackforth-Jones (Hodder and Stoughton, 10s. 6d.)

ONCE more the Green youngsters are afloat with Uncle George and we pick them up at sea just as Barbados heaves in sight.

In their motor-ketch Rag Doll they plan a glorious holiday in the West Indies. But then they are joined by that breezy Yorkshireman, Mr. Ramsden, who has already proved a friend in need. He is working for a syndicate of diamond merchants who are trying to track down a big smuggling racket, and he asks Uncle George to give him a passage to St. Lucia.

The plot thickens—so does the weather. While Uncle is ashore the youngsters get driven from their moorings by a hurricane, and the description of their thirty-hour ordeal in Rag Doll is magnificent. Within an ace of sinking they are wrecked on a tiny island which leads them to the heart of the mystery.

## AWKWARD SITUATION

Ballet School Rivals, by Constance M. White (Hutchinson, 8s. 6d.)

WHEN Mya the Burmese girl arrives at the Ballet School she is befriended by Alix, but the course of their friendship is anything but smooth. For one thing, the impulsive Alix had been the best dancer in the middle school until Mya's arrival; and there is also the difficulty of Mya's pet monkey and Alix's dog being on the worst of terms.

This appealing tale of a good-hearted girl trying hard not to be jealous of her friend is the fourth of the author's popular Ballet School series.

## TOUGH SCHOOL

Jim Starling, by E. W. Hildick (Chatto and Windus, 8s. 6d.)

AN ordinary school in a workaday town is the unusual setting of this story by a new writer; it is a down-to-earth story about boys who are tough but full of generous impulses. Jim Starling and his friend Terry Todd—both pupils at the Clement Street Secondary Modern School—have an enemy in "Big Smig," a bullying youth who resents every day spent in the classroom.

When coats are mysteriously slashed in the cloakroom Jim and Terry suspect Big Smig, and then they find that the bully has got himself mixed up with adult lead thieves. Their adventures in tracking down the gang are spiced with plenty of rough-and-tumble fun.

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## CURTAIN UP

*Understudy*, by Pamela Brown (Nelson, 9s. 6d.)  
*Swan Feather*, by Lorna Hill (Evans, 10s. 6d.)

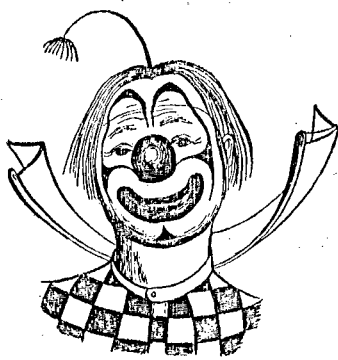
HERE are two books for girls who have felt the lure of the theatre and have stage ambitions. "Understudy" tells the story of a girl's struggle to achieve fame behind the footlights, after finishing her training at a Dramatic School. It gives many convincing glimpses of that mysterious realm of show business known as backstage, which the author knows so well.

"Swan Feather" deals with the very human young folk who belong to the fascinating world of ballet. This story of girls at a Ballet School makes it plain that youth and enthusiasm must be matched with hard work and dancing talent—and that a lucky swan feather is not enough.

## TROUBLE WITH THE WAR OFFICE

*Rockets in the Dunes*, by Lois Lamplugh (Cape, 13s. 6d.)

IN this yarn a group of young people support an old naturalist in his campaign to prevent the War Office taking over the beautiful bay where they go sand yachting. To stir up a public protest they suggest parading the nearby town wearing sandwich boards and handing out leaflets, a task that sounds simpler than it proves to be. Their adventures as voluntary publicity agents form only part of the fun in this merry tale.



One of the many fine illustrations by Barbara Jones in *CLOWNS*, by Douglas Newton (Harrap 12s. 6d.) an entertaining history of the famous men of the circus, with stories of Grimaldi, Grock, and many other great clowns.

## HEALING CAREER

*Sue Takes Up Physiotherapy*, by Joan Owens (Bodley Head, 8s. 6d.)

PHYSIOTHERAPY is the relief and healing of various ailments and disabilities by means of exercises, massage, and electrical treatment. This account of a girl's training in the science is something more than an appealing story; it also provides an engrossing preview of the profession which offers a most worthwhile career.

## IMPOSTOR

*Musical Ride*, by Peggie Cannam (Lutterworth, 7s. 6d.)

AS soon as the new riding mistress arrived at the school, Gerry felt there was something odd about her. For one thing, she did not seem to have much idea about training the pony team, and her methods seemed very old-fashioned. Before long Gerry discovered the truth: the mistress was really a thief. But how to prove it! That was the problem facing Gerry—a problem that provides plenty of excitement.

*GIRL WHO DREW DREAMS*  
*Marianne Dreams*, by Catherine Storr (Faber, 12s. 6d.)

THIS is a clever and original kind of story about a boy and girl, both recovering from illness, who find themselves sharing a dream of a strange, small house in a strange empty landscape. Strangest of all is that what happens in this eerie little house, to which they return again and again, seems to depend on what the girl draws in her sketch book with a special pencil. The tale is really an allegory, and the telling of it is first-rate.

## OTHER RECOMMENDED BOOKS

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*THE REAL BOOK OF MAGIC*, by Joseph Leeming—170 magic acts to baffle your friends (Dobson, 10s. 6d.)

*JUDY'S NEXT COOKERY BOOK*, by Muriel Goaman—dozens of interesting recipes for young cooks (Faber, 7s. 6d.)

*MOTOR CARS*, by P. A. Turner—The story of the motor car from its invention to the present day (Temple Press, 10s. 6d.)

*YOUR BOOK OF ARCHITECTURE*, by Agnes and Jack Allen—designed to encourage young people to look closely at the buildings around them (Faber, 8s. 6d.)

*101 BEST CARD GAMES FOR CHILDREN*, by Alfred Sheinwold (Nicholas Kaye, 10s. 6d.)

## WONDER CHILD OF MUSIC

*Mozart*, by Manuel Komroff (Lutterworth, 9s. 6d.)

EVEN in these days of young stars there is no success story more extraordinary than that of the seven-year-old boy, Wolfgang Mozart—who took Europe by storm 200 years ago.

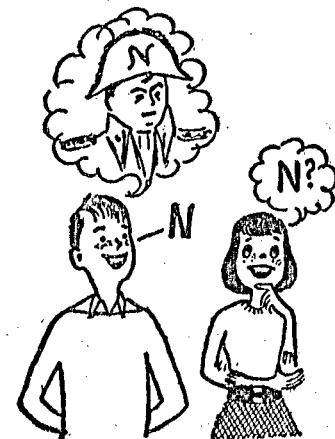
This short book tells how he was launched upon the world by his ambitious father, of how they travelled to various European capitals in lurching coaches, always with a clavichord lashed to the roof. This small boy was patted on the head by kings and queens and dukes.

New fame came to him when he grew up, this time as a composer, pouring forth a continuous stream of golden music. But no golden reward came to him—not even enough to live on. In the end he fulfilled the old saying of the Greeks concerning those whom the gods love. He died young.

## FUN AND GAMES

*The Real Book of Games*, by Joseph Leeming (Dobson, 10s. 6d.)

THE best children's parties are undoubtedly those which have been planned beforehand. And as no party is complete without plenty of games it is a good idea



One of Ida Schieb's illustrations to the *Real Book of Games*.

to have some worked out long before the first visitors arrive.

First published in America, this book contains more than 200 games, many of them new to this country. Here are noisy games and quiet games, indoor games and outdoor games, "ice-breakers"—in fact, every sort of game to make a party go with a swing.

*WILD FLOWERS OF BRITAIN*, by B. D. Inglis (Nelson, 10s. 6d.)

*INSTRUCTIONS TO YOUNG WRITERS*, by L. A. G. Strong—valuable hints from a famous author (Museum Press, 12s. 6d.)

*THE YOUNG TRAVELLER IN THE FAR NORTH*—Iceland, Greenland, and Alaska—by Geoffrey Williamson (Phoenix, 10s. 6d.)

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*Snail and the Pennithornes*, described by Barbara Euphan Todd on the B.B.C. as "a perfectly lovely book," ended with Richard Pennithorne saying he was sure there would be a next time. And here it is; but this time Snail and Meg and Richard spend their holiday on a narrow boat meandering along the inland waterways of England. 10s. 6d. net.

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A. Philippa Pearce's story of a boy's wonderful discovery which led him to a new friend, Hatty, a Victorian girl. One of Susan Einzig's drawings is shown here. 10s 6d net

### Devils' Hill

Eleven-year old Badge and his family make an exciting expedition into the mountains near their home in Tasmania. This new story by Nan Chauncy is a companion to *Tiger in the Bush* which was named 'Best Children's Book for 1958' in Australia. Illustrated by Geraldine Spence. 10s 6d net

### Bridges

The story of great achievements in bridge building through the ages told by J. S. Murphy with illustrations on every page and a large colour inset by Charles Keeping. 9s 6d net

### A Picture History of the U.S.A.

The latest of the colourful *Oxford Picture Histories*. Text by Henry Steele Commager and pictures by Clarke Hutton. 12s 6d net

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*Anatole and the Cat*, Eve Titus and Paul Galdone, 7s. 6d. In this bright and colourful sequel to the popular *Anatole*, we meet again the French cheese-tasting mouse and his delightful family.

*Petunia*, Roger Duvoisin, 8s. 6d. The illustrator of *The Happy Lion* has now written his own picture book, all about a goose who finds a book lying in the meadow.

*Pugwash Aloft*, John Ryan, 7s. 6d. The lovable Captain Pugwash, of B.B.C. Children's Television fame, is back again. Here are some more amusing and exciting



adventures, with Cut-throat Jake, Pugwash and Tom, the cabin boy.

*The Children's Crusade*, Henry Treece, 12s. 6d. For older children, Henry

Treece has chosen as the theme of his new historical novel the tragic but inspiring story of the Children's Crusade. The illustrations are by Christine Price.

*The Children of the Marshes*, Michel-Aimé Baudouy, 12s. 6d. All the excitement and drama of the Spanish bullfight is here, but also all the tragedy and heartache. This is a vital and alive story, and there are some striking illustrations by Richard Kennedy.

BODLEY HEAD BOOKS FOR BOYS & GIRLS

## Astronomy through the Ages

Man's watch on the sky through the ages is the theme of I. O. Evans' new book: *Discovering the Heavens* (Hutchinson, 12s. 6d.).

Mr. Evans begins by relating some of the strange notions held by people of ancient times about the Sun, Moon, and stars. The Egyptians, for example, thought that every night Kepher the beetle-god rolled the sun back below the skyline from the west to its starting place in the east, much as a Nile-side beetle rolled a tiny ball of earth. Nevertheless, they made accurate measurements of the Sun's apparent movements.

The Greeks developed astronomy still more, and in the fifth century B.C. one of them, Philolaus, actually suggested that the Earth itself moved! This startling idea, however, was not seriously considered until the 16th century,

when Copernicus found that the theory seemed to simplify the motions of the heavens.

The theory was proved by Galileo, the first man to use an efficient telescope for exploring the heavens. Early in the 17th century his discoveries astounded his generation. He revealed that the Moon's surface, then thought to be smooth, is wrinkled into mountains, valleys, and craters; he saw Jupiter's moons; and he found that the Milky Way is formed of a mass of stars close together.

The book continues with a fascinating account of later discoveries, right down to our own times. Patrick Moore, in a foreword, aptly describes it as "an outline of astronomical history which sets out all the facts and yet reads as easily and interestingly as any story."

## GRAND NEW BOOKS TO READ BY THE FIRESIDE

(Continued from pages 10 and 11)

### PALACE AND PRISON

*Seven in the Tower*, by Louise Collis (Faber, 18s.)

THE Tower of London—royal palace, city fortress, and grim prison—never seems to lose its fascination. But the imagination is stirred most by memories of the famous men and women who spent their last bitter days within its forbidding walls.

This book tells the stories of some of the most famous of the prisoners, the Little Princes, Perkin Warbeck, Anne Boleyn, Jane Grey, Walter Raleigh, Guy Fawkes, and the Duke of Monmouth. It makes a stimulating prelude to a visit to the Tower.

### MAGIC IN A SIDE STREET

*The Girl from Nowhere*, by Hertha von Gebhardt (University of London Press, 12s. 6d.)

THE children who play in a side street of a German town are puzzled by a new arrival, a sad little girl who sits every day under the same lamp, taking no notice of them and apparently waiting for someone who never comes. The younger children get fanciful notions, imagining her as "a kind of ghost" who can work magic.

The excitement brought into their lives by this mysterious waif makes a charming and moving tale, well translated from the German by James Kirkup.

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*Nancy and the Carrs*, by Kathleen Mackenzie (Evans, 10s. 6d.)

WHEN young Nancy Thompson suddenly took it into her head to go chasing after somebody's runaway horse she soon found herself in a hole; it was a very deep hole—a quarry with water in it. The horse had jumped over the edge and was swimming helplessly until Nancy came to the rescue.

This brave and resourceful action earned her the gratitude of the Carr family, owners of the runaway and of a stable of horses. And this friendship changed life for Nancy in an exciting way.

### DANGER IN A GARDEN

*The Mystery of the Blue Tomatoes*, by Jennie Hawthorne (Harrap 8s. 6d.)

UNCLE GEORGE comes back from sea—and that is when the trouble begins for Dad and the rest of the family.

A mysterious parcel given to Uncle by a dying Japanese is found to contain a few dull-looking seeds. Dad thinks they may be orchids, but when they have been planted in the back garden, have grown and borne fruit—well, it takes the local Civil Defence people, the police and a geiger counter to get things right again.

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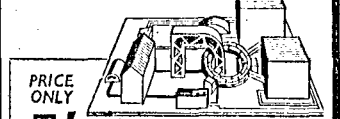
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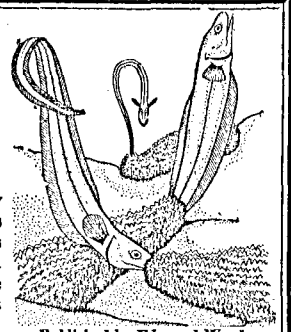
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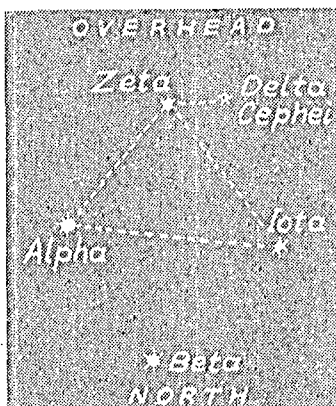
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## LOOKING AT THE SKY

# THE THROBBING SUNS

WHEN we look up at the starry sky its multitude of radiant suns all appear very much alike—points of light with slight variations of hue here and there. But when a precise investigation and analysis is made of their light and motion, immense differences are found to exist.



One of the most valuable results arising from such analysis has been the discovery of the distance and size of pulsating (throbbing like a pulse) suns, known as "Cepheids" after the constellation in which the first pulsating sun was discovered.

This constellation of Cepheus now occupies a large area of the northern sky of an evening, extending from overhead almost to the Pole Star; and the chief stars of Cepheus may be readily identified from our star-map, providing the observer faces in a northerly direction.

The pulsating sun of particular interest is Delta-in-Cepheus, generally known as Delta Cephei. It is now a little to the north of overhead in the early evening and may be easily identified by means of the obvious triangle of brighter stars.

Delta Cephei is normally between magnitude 4 and 5, so it does not appear nearly as bright

as the star Zeta, which is of about third magnitude. (This star can be seen a little to the east of Delta and will be a useful star with which to compare the changes in Delta.)

These changes had long mystified astronomers because of the regularity in the variations of its light, extending from near fifth magnitude to magnitude 3.7.

In the course of about one day the light from this great sun increases from a minimum of nearly 1000 times more light than our Sun to over 2000 times greater. After declining gradually during the next four days Delta Cephei repeats the astonishing outburst of radiant energy.

### TIME AND SIZE

Subsequent research has shown that there are many such suns. It was discovered that the length of time taken by each pulsation of the various suns depends upon their size; so while a small Cepheid sun will go through its cycle of variations in a few hours a very large Cepheid would take as much as a hundred days or more. Thus it becomes possible to calculate the size of a Cepheid sun by the length of time it takes to pulsate or go through all its changes of expansion and contraction.

If its size is known, the Cepheid's distance can be calculated, so this discovery has proved to be of the greatest value to astronomers, enabling them to find out the distances of clusters of suns and even universes far beyond other means of measurement.

Delta Cephei is really rather a small pulsating sun; nevertheless, it has a diameter which averages about 26 times more than that of our Sun. But Delta Cephei is at a distance of about 650 light-years' journey—about 41 million times farther than our Sun, so it appears to us as only "a little star."

G. F. M.

## LIVING DANGEROUSLY

Continued from page 9

But there was a second post-mortem to be held. Lamentable as was the death of a valued test pilot, it was in a way even more important to find the answer to the question: why did the DH 110 explode and disintegrate in the air?

Was there, the experts asked themselves as they pieced together what evidence was available from the fragments of the aircraft, some flaw in the design of the plane as a whole? Was the angle of the wings wrongly designed? Was there a weakness that was structural? Was there simply a flaw in one small part that led to a loss of equilibrium and, as a result of the pilot's attempt to restore equilibrium, a stress set up which caused the disintegration? Was the apparent explosion due to failure of the fabric to withstand the air pressure when the speed of sound was passed? Had some vital piece of mechanism, one of the controls, perhaps, failed in a crucial moment of the dive? Or

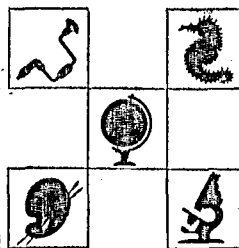
was the disaster due to an error of judgment—a failure of the human rather than the material element?

Fortunately for the history of aviation generally, and the development of aircraft in particular, test pilots have often come near to death and yet survived. And having survived, they have been able to answer some at any rate of the innumerable questions that have to be asked whenever disaster has overtaken a prototype plane.

It calls for courage, of course, even to take a prototype plane into the air without any proved information as to how it will behave under the stresses that will be imposed upon it. It takes even greater courage—cold, calculated courage—to do what many test pilots have done time and time again, and will always do when possible. Mike Lithgow, for example.

(Next week you can read of Mike Lithgow's experience when his plane shook so violently that he blacked out.)

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# PUZZLE PARADE

## THEY ALL RAN

Who ran away when the boys came out to play?  
Who ran away with a pig?  
Who ran through the town?  
Who ran after the farmer's wife?

Who first ran the mile in under four minutes?

Who ran a race with her suitors?

## PLACES IN POETRY

Fill in the blanks to complete the names of well-known poems and nursery rhymes.

Wise Men of —

How they brought the good news from —

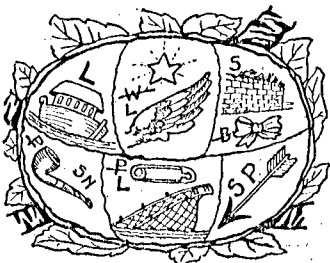
Jackdaw of —

Piped Piper of —

As I was going to —

— Bridge is broken down.

## NEST OF BIRDS



Can you find the name of the bird suggested by each illustration?

## TITLE FOR A KING

Can you give the names of the kings who had the following nicknames?

THE RED; The Conqueror; The Unready; The Confessor; Coeur-de-Lion.

## GIVE THEM THEIR CHRISTIAN NAMES

Do you know the Christian names of the following people in fiction?

SHARP; Eyre; Woodhouse; Earnshaw; Doone; Varden; Capulet; Trotwood.

## MUDDLED COUNTRIES

The jumbled names of five countries are given below. When you have found them the names can be arranged so that the initials form the name of a sixth country.

DAANAC HANDOLL LYTIA REGAINI SITARUA

## JUST A FEW WORDS

HERE is an entertaining way to increase your knowledge of words. Each numbered sentence below is followed by three answers or comments you might make; but, in each case, only one is correct and shows that you have understood the meaning of the word in *italics*. To answer five correctly is very good.

Answers are given in column 5

- This fine thing has been *desecrated*.  
A—Set on one side.  
B—Wickedly spoilt.  
C—Devoted to good use.
- The chief made a *valedictory* speech.  
A—A hearty welcome.  
B—A last farewell.  
C—An evil curse.
- He is known to be a *philanthropist*.  
A—Helps his fellow men.  
B—Fond of flirting.  
C—A keen stamp-collector.
- She had an *intrusive* manner.  
A—Given to telling lies.  
B—Inclined to butt in.  
C—Great depth of feelings.
- A *unilateral* decision has been taken.  
A—All in agreement.  
B—Not reached soon enough.  
C—Made by or with one party only.
- The last speaker made an *apposite* remark.  
A—Very much to the point.  
B—Full of foreboding.  
C—Contradicting the others.

## WORD SQUARE

MUSICAL instrument.

Kind of fever.

Not to be broken.

Found on oranges and lemons.

## ANIMAL OFFSPRING

The list below contains the names of five familiar animals. Beside them, but not correctly placed, are the jumbled names of the young of these animals. Can you sort them out?

GOAT—BLMA.

CAT—REEVILE.

HARE—IDK.

SHEEP—ALOF.

HORSE—NIKTET.

## HIDDEN TEST MEN

The names of two England cricketers now touring Australia are hidden in the paragraph below.

BLAKE relished fast bowling short of a length. Twice in one over he hooked Harris for six. From being behind the clock, Cowly now found they had ample time in which to score the runs needed for victory.

## MIXED DISH

Fill in the blanks with nationalities to give the names of well-known foods.

- beans; — roll;  
— broth; — stew;  
— rarebit; — onion.

## LUCKY DIP

### YOUR OWN CHRISTMAS CARD



PASTE this picture on card, and when dry colour it with paints or crayons. You will find it makes a delightful card to place in a Christmas parcel for one of your friends.

## ONCE IN A BLUE MOON

O SHINING Moon, endeavour, do, Instead of silver to be blue; For if a thing's a splendid thing It never dreams of happening Till you are blue—and then but once.

To give exciting things a chance To happen oftener, oh, do, As quickly as you can—be blue!

## JACKO SEES THE SOUTH POLE



Jacko, Baby, and Bouncer went to the airport to meet Uncle Jacko, who was returning from exploration in the Antarctic. As Uncle Jacko stepped from the plane he was followed by a party of penguins carrying a long pole. "What's that?" asked Jacko. "You've always wanted to see Antarctica haven't you?" said Uncle with a twinkle in his eye. "Well, as it wasn't possible for you to go to the South Pole, I've brought the South Pole to you!"

## KNIGHT OF THE ROAD

YOUNG Bill has got a scooter, It's painted white and red; He always goes out riding With a helmet on his head.

He stops at all the crossings, He watches corners, too; Let's other traffic pass him, Just like all good drivers do.

He notices the signals, For he knows his Highway Code. And that is why we call him A "true knight of the road."

## DID YOU KNOW?

THE Bible contains 3,566,480 letters, 773,692 words, 31,173 verses, 1189 chapters, and 66 books. There are 39 books in the Old Testament and 27 in the New.

## ROVER LEADS THE WAY

It would have been all right had Billy and Paul not stopped to chat with the teacher when school finished. For when they came out some time later it was quite dark and there was a thick fog.

Rover, of course, was waiting by the front gates as usual, and the three of them set off carefully. Suddenly they almost bumped into an old gentleman standing helplessly by the kerb.

"Can I help you, sir?" asked Billy politely.

"Well, I don't know," replied the old gentleman. "I'm trying to get to 19 Gorton Gardens, but I can't see a thing in this fog."

"Well, I know where it is," said Billy. "But whether you'll find it . . . Just a minute. Doesn't Jimmy Dale live next door?"

"Yes, he does," said the old gentleman. "Why?"

"Jimmy's got a dog—and she's a good friend of Rover's." He

turned to the dog. "Come on, boy. Go find Sheila. Come on."

Rover promptly trotted off with the three of them following as quickly as they dared. On and on through the fog they went, till at last Rover stopped at a gate. "This is where Jimmy lives," said Billy. "Your house is the next."

They saw the old gentleman to his front door, then turned to go. But when his wife heard of their good deed she insisted on them coming in to have something warm "to keep the fog out of their throats."

They were just sitting down when they realised that Rover was missing. Then they heard a barking at the front door. But when Billy opened it there were two dogs sitting in the porch! Then he remembered.

"Good old Rover," he laughed.

"I told you to find Sheila—and find her you have."

## ANSWERS TO PUZZLES

They all ran. George Porgie; Tom, the Piper's son; Wee Willie Winkie; Three Blind Mice; Roger Bannister; Atalanta.

Places in Poetry. Gotham; Ghent; Rheims; Hamelin; St. Ives; London.

Nest of birds. Lark; starling; swallow; snipe; linnet; sparrow.

Title for a king. William Rufus; William; Ethelred; Edward; Richard.

Christian names. Becky; Jane; Emma; Catherine; Lorna; Dolly; Juliet; Betsey.

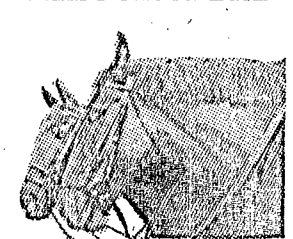
LAST WEEK'S ANSWER. Hidden Test men. Laker; Lock.

Mixed dish. French; Swiss; Scotch; Irish; Welsh; Spanish.

Word-square. H A R P. A C U E. R U L E. P E E L.

THAT ARCH  
HOTELS A  
US PESTER  
STAND END  
AGE LEMON  
PEWTER WO  
S ROUTES  
ENVY MADE

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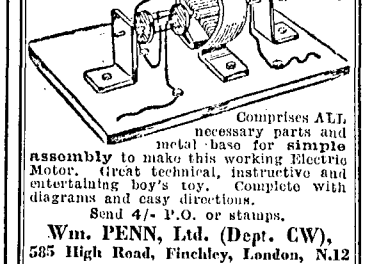


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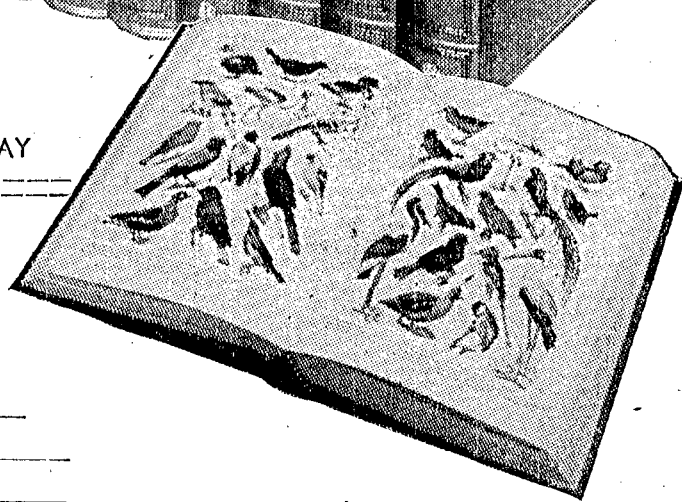
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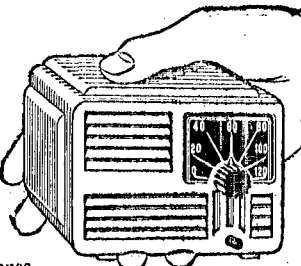
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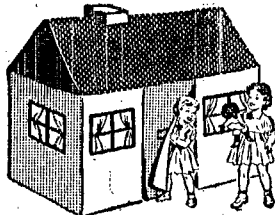
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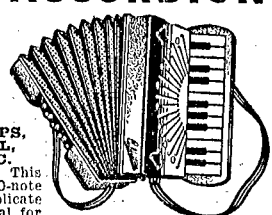
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## ICE SKATING ON GRASS

THE European ice racing championships to be held in Sweden next January will take place on a football pitch.

A 400-metre track is to be laid down in the Nya Ullevi Stadium in Gothenburg, scene of several soccer matches in the World Cup last summer. An ice hockey rink will also be put down at the same time.

But the stadium will not be lost to soccer, for in the spring the rink and track will be taken away.

The first stage in the building of the track and rink is the laying of a network of electric cables just below the grass. Then 295,000 feet of tubing are placed on the surface and covered with fine sand or grit. A salt solution is circulated through the pipes, thus freezing the already cold ground.

The area is then flooded with water, which freezes on contacting the now frozen ground. Other layers are added, completely covering the tubes.

The ordinary Swedish winter climate keeps the ice frozen, but in the event of a warm day, the salt solution is pumped through the system again.

In the spring, when the pitch is required for soccer, the current is switched on in the electric cables

to help in thawing and drying the soil. The tubes can then be removed.

Just outside the stadium a number of hard tennis courts are to be laid, incorporating the same system, but with the tubes placed permanently just below the surface.

## Swimming Cups



Yvonne Taylor of Barking, Essex, with the seven cups she gained recently at the annual swimming gala held by the Barking Swimming Club. Although only 13, she won every ladies' event.

## Memorial to a sportsman

GOOD sportsmanship among soccer players in the Bristol district is to be recognised by the award of a trophy. It will be presented to the player, amateur or professional, whose good sportsmanship and conduct on and off the field is considered exemplary. A panel of judges will be appointed from the various football associations in Bristol.

The trophy will be a memorial to the late Harry Bamford, of Bristol Rovers, who was killed recently in a road accident while on his way to a schoolboy coaching session. Harry Bamford, himself one of the game's finest sportsmen, was born and reared in Bristol, and played in more than 500 games for the Rovers.

## Soccer International

ENGLAND meet Wales in a soccer international match on Wednesday at Villa Park, Birmingham. If the Englishmen win, they will have three points from two games, the same as Scotland. The Championship will thus depend on the meeting between the two countries, at Wembley next April, for neither Ireland nor Wales can now gain enough points to win the title.

In the 68 previous full internationals between England and Wales, the Welshmen have recorded only 11 victories, and 11 games have been drawn.

## John Charles at Highbury

WEDNESDAY is also an important date for Arsenal F.C., for it will see their long-awaited match with Juventus, the famous Italian club. One of the stars of the Juventus team is John Charles, the big Welshman who was transferred from Leeds United to the Italian club last year for a fee of £65,000.

The whole of Wales was hoping to see Charles in the national team this week, but his club ruled that he must play in the game at Highbury.

## Betty Cuthbert Street

A SYDNEY suburb has named a street after Betty Cuthbert, the local girl who won three gold medals in the 1956 Olympic Games at Melbourne.

## SPORTS QUIZ

1. In which sport is the Inter-Cities Fairs Cup contested?
2. Who wrote: "Hail, Cricket! glorious manly British game!"
3. Does a rugby place kicker use his toe or instep?
4. How many players have made the maximum possible snooker break of 147?
5. Which soccer team holds the European Champions Clubs' Cup?
6. Who is ranked No. 1 among England's junior girl table tennis players.

1. Soccer. It is competition between European and British teams from cities which hold industrial fairs. 2. James Love (1722-1774). 3. Most players kick with the toe. 4. Only one—Joe Davis. 5. Real Madrid. 6. Jean Hutter of Middlesex.

## SPORTING GALLERY

### NORMAN O'NEILL

Only three Australian cricketers have scored 1000 runs in a Sheffield Shield season. They are Don Bradman, Bill Ponsford, and Norman O'Neill.

O'Neill, only 21, was described as "another Bradman" after performing this feat last season. It is high praise, but the present M.C.C. team touring Australia saw something of his quality at Perth, when he took a century off Peter May's men.



Six feet tall, 13½ stone in weight, and a natural cricketer, Norman seems certain to make a big name in Test cricket. Like Bradman, he devised his own method of practice in boyhood. The young Bradman used to hit a golf ball with a cricket stump; O'Neill put a cricket ball into an old football stocking, suspended from a clothes line. When he hit it, it rebounded at many different angles.

## Tennis with a smaller service area

A FEW months ago we mentioned the plan to reduce the advantage of the powerful server in tennis by bringing the service lines nearer to the net.

"The main disadvantage of the plan," we wrote at the time, "is that experts would soon adjust themselves to the smaller area and would serve as hard as ever within a short time."

The first of two tournaments to be held in Paris using the smaller service area has just been completed, and Jaroslav Drobný and Jacques Brichant, the two finalists, both admitted that the alteration did not affect their game unduly. Services still dominated the play, and both players served a number of aces.

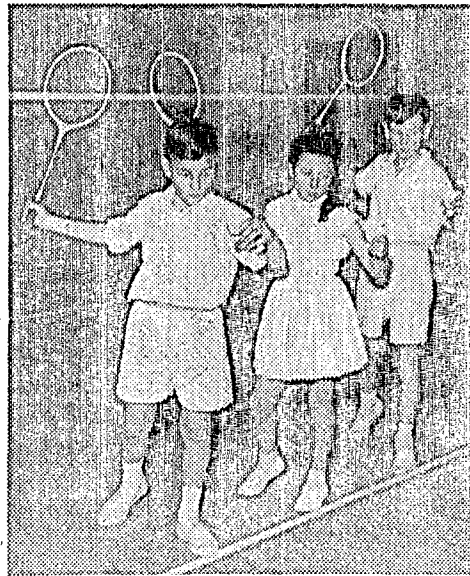
The plan is to be given a second trial in January, but at this stage it seems that if the playing area is altered, the only people to be affected will be the "rabbits" and not the experts.

## Schoolboy plays for England

IT is not often that a headmaster is able to tell a pupil that he has been selected to play for England in an amateur international match, but that was the proud duty recently of Mr. John Roche, Headmaster at Barnsley Grammar School. The pupil was 18-year-old David Wright, who had been chosen to play in the match against Wales.

One of the most promising left-backs in the game, David has already achieved considerable distinction with the Barnsley and England Schools teams, and last season he captained the England Youth XI in a number of games. He also appeared with the Barnsley Football Club's reserve side.

David is studying for a scientific career, and soccer is only a recreation with him. He turned down several offers to play for England's Youth team on the Continent earlier this year, for acceptance would have interfered with his exam swotting.



## Badminton practice

Three young members of the Wimbledon Squash and Badminton Club practising the important art of serving. More and more youngsters seem to be taking up this fast indoor game.

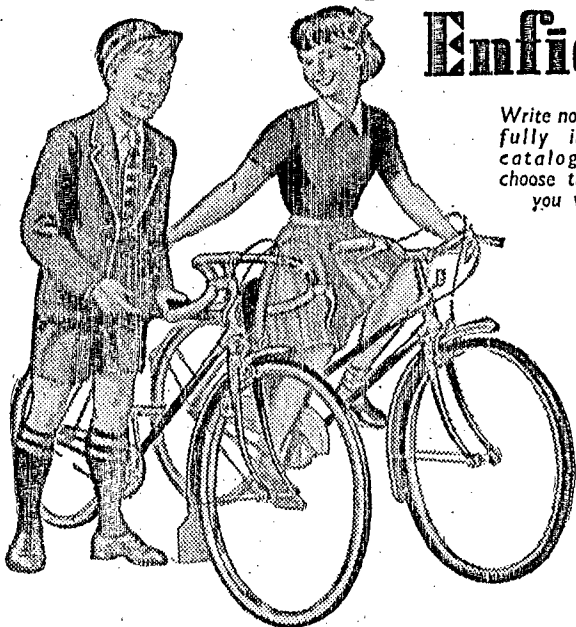
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